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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 43 Number 1 January · February 1990

Strictly Business — Your Business

INFORMATION FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY TO ENSURE GOOD SERVICE. IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM, SEND EACH ITEM TO THE CORRECT PERSON. ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

MEMBERSHIP

AVSA Membership: Send check payable to AVSA for new or renewable membership to AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Life - \$175; Commercial USA - \$25, Commercial International - \$27; Individual - \$13.50, USA only. All other countries \$15.50. Remit in U.S. Dollars with draft or check on a New York, USA Bank. See Membership Application on page 1.

AFFILIATES: Chapter - \$13.50; Council, State or Region - \$30. Please complete the form received with your renewal notice and return to AVSA office with affiliate dues check..

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION: Send ideas, offers to help, requests for assistance to Anne Tinari, 2325 Valley Rd., Box 190, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

AFFILIATES: For information on shows, awards, how to organize a chapter or membership questions, write Mr. Bill Foster, 3610 Gray Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.

AVSA OFFICE: Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704, 409-839-4725. Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

BEST VARIETIES: HONOR ROLL COMPILER: Rita Hilton, 2295 W. Helen Circle, Bartow, FL 33830.

BINDERS FOR AVMs: \$10.75 each or 2 for \$20

SLIP CASE BOXES FOR AVMs: \$8.50 each or 2 for \$16.

BOOSTER FUND: Send contributions to Ruth Warren, P. O. Box 3664, Fall River, MA 02722.

BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND: Send contributions (club or individual) to Mrs. Marlene Brown, P. O. Box 38, Oreland, PA 19075.

BUILDING FUND: Send contributions to Nell-Sue Tyson, 2030 E. Amherst Ave., Denver, CO 80210.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: Mr. David Buttram, P. O. Box 193, Independence, MO 64051.

COMMERCIAL SALES & EXHIBITS: For information on convention entries or sales room, contact J. R. Pittman, 12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233.

CONVENTION

AWARDS: Nov. issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Esther Wells, 948 Fair Oaks Court, Liberty, MO 64068 by Aug. 15.

FUTURE CONVENTION DATES: Boston, March 19-25, 1990; Santa Clara, CA, April 23-28, 1991; Columbus, OH, April 22-26, 1992.

PROGRAM: Nov. issue. Send special requests for workshop programs; suggest names of interesting speakers to Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Leeward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

If interested in sponsoring a national convention in your area, contact Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Leeward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

CULTURE FOLDERS: ALL folders are \$5.00 per 100 (postage included in cost). Any Affiliate or Commercial who recruits 6 or more members per year will receive \$1.00 rebate for each new member. Club or Commercial name & address must be stamped or written in blank space on front of folder.

HANDBOOK FOR AFRICAN VIOLET GROWERS, EXHIBITORS AND JUDGES: Send \$9.95 check, payable to AVSA, to AVSA Office. Price includes postage.

JUDGES DUPLICATE CARD: Send self-addressed stamped envelope to Mrs. James S. Savage, 39 Mead Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601.

JUDGING SCHOOL: For blanks to register a judging school, send request to Mrs. Stanley E. Skelton, 3910 Larchwood Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041.

LIBRARY: Order AVSA slide programs and packets from AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. List in July issue. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate, write Mr. L. T. Ozio, Jr., 1009 Ditch Avenue, Morgan City, LA 70380.

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EDITOR: Jane Birge, P. O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704, Office, 409-835-6008.

ARTICLES BY MEMBERS & COLUMNISTS: Send to Editor.

COMING EVENT NOTICES: Send to Editor.

DEADLINES - ARTICLES & NOTICES: Jan. issue - Oct. 1; Mar. issue - Dec. 1; May issue - Feb. 1; July issue - Apr. 1; Sept. issue - June 1; Nov. issue - Aug. 1.

ADVERTISING MANAGER: For advertising rates and copy information write: Mrs. Meredith Hall, 922 East 14th Street, Houston, TX 77009, 713-869-0102.

DEADLINES - ADS: Jan. issue - Nov. 1; Mar. issue - Jan. 1; May issue - Mar. 1; July issue - May 1; Sept. issue - July 1; Nov. issue - Sept. 1. ONLY currently paid Commercial Members may advertise.

AFFILIATE 'APPENINGS: Send to Lyndall Owens, P. O. Box 288, Beaumont, TX 77704.

BACK ISSUES: Complete your set now. Request price list of available issues from Beaumont office.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Send new address at least 30 days before it is to take effect, along with old address, to AVSA office in Beaumont.

FAILURE TO RECEIVE: Notify AVSA office in Beaumont.

QUESTION BOX: Jim Smith, 1126 Ferry Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14301.

MASTER VARIETY LIST: Number 4 (1983) \$3.00 postpaid. A must for judges, exhibitors, serious growers. Describes all varieties registered to July, 1983 - all recognized species, and non-registered cultivars introduced from June, 1976 to July, 1983. Order from Beaumont office.

MVL SUPPLEMENTS: will be published in the AVM. Send any correction and/or description of new cultivars with hybridizer's name to Master Variety List Chairman. Back supplements (1984 to 1988) available from AVSA Office for \$1.50 each.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS: Sent to Associate Members and New Members, only. Members renewing, receive card on white protective cover of AVM.

MINIATURE & SEMIMINIATURE VARIETY LIST: Available at AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Price, \$4.00 postpaid.

SUPPLEMENTS FOR MINI LIST: Send Self-addressed stamped envelope to Beaumont office.

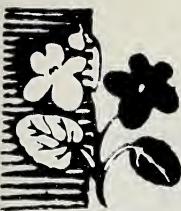
OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE: AVSA Secretary, Mrs. Janet T. Riemer, 392 Pennington-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534.

PLANT REGISTRATION: Marilyn Goldstein, 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

RESEARCH: Send suggested projects for scientific research, or names of interested, qualified potential research personnel to Frank Tinari, 2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

SHOW ENTRY TAGS: 100 - \$4.75 postpaid. Order from the AVSA Office.

ASK YOUR HYBRIDIZER: Send all questions to Bill Johnson, 1221 West River Road, #A2, Elyria, OH 44035



African Violet

MAGAZINE

Vol. 43 Number 1

January/February 1990

Every attempt is made to keep articles technically correct. Since the growing of fine African violets can be achieved in many ways, the methods and opinions expressed by writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of AVSA.

ON THE COVER - From the award-winning display table of Kent's Flowers of Arlington, NE — Tomahawk — at the 1989 Kansas City AVSA Convention.

(Cover photo by E. A. Johnson, Dallas, TX)

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P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704**

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(Please type or print)

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Make checks payable to AVSA, Inc. INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS:
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OFFICERS

MARY BOLAND, President
6415 Wilcox Ct., Alexandria, VA 22310
A. CHARLES BOLLAR, 1st Vice President
F32030 P.O. Box 44209, Cincinnati, OH 45244
MRS. J. R. PITTMAN, 2nd Vice President
12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233
L. T. OZIO, Jr., 3rd Vice President
1009 Ditch Ave., Morgan City, LA 70380
MRS. JANET T. RIEMER, Secretary
392 Penn-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534
MRS. JOHN HAYES, Treasurer
9 Cobblestone Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

MRS. FRED YOUNG
6109 Shadow Mountain Dr., Austin, TX 78731

EDITOR EMERITUS

MRS. GRACE FOOTE
211 Alien Place, Port Arthur, TX 77642

STAFF

JANE BIRGE, Editor
P.O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704
MRS. MEREDITH HALL, Adv. Mgr.
922 East 14th St., Houston, TX 77009
NANCY LAWRENCE, Office Manager
P.O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704
JANE REXILIUS, Publications Chairman
5634 Yarwell, Houston, TX 77096

COLUMNISTS

David Buttram, Emilie Savage, Florence Naylor,
Edward Bradford, Ruth Warren, Bill Foster, Jim
Smith, Nancy Lawrence, Georgene Albrecht, L. T.
Ozio, Jr., Marlene Brown, Bill Johnson, Nell-Sue
Tyson, Lyndall Owens, Marilyn Goldstein
BEST VARIETIES, HONOR ROLL COMPILER:
Rita Hilton, 2295 W. Helen Cir., Bartow, FL 33830
TALLY TIME COMPILER:
Anna Jean Landgren, 810 Ingleside Place, Evan-
ston, IL 60201
PUBLISHER: Publishing Today, P.O. Box 1401,
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ADVERTISER'S INDEX

Trouble with an advertiser?
Write your AV Advertising
Manager giving complete details.
While AVSA cannot assume
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try to help resolve the problem.
If an advertiser is found
irresponsible, they will be
refused future ads.

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The African Violet Magazine (ISSN 0002-0265) is published six (6) times a year: January, March, May, July, September, November. Second class postage is paid by the African Violet Society of America, Inc., a nonprofit organization, at 2363 McFaddin, Beaumont, TX 77702 and at additional mailing offices. Subscription \$13.50 per year which is included in membership dues.

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From the President's Desk



Dear AVSA Members,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, your President wishes you a very healthy, happy and prosperous 1990.

Now that the holidays are over, it is time to look forward to the convention at the Boston Park Plaza, in Boston, MA, March 19-25. Come to Boston and "Catch The New England Spirit."

In this issue we have added a new columnist, Georgene Albrecht. Georgene comes to us highly recommended. She writes for the orchid society and the rose society but her great love is African violets. Welcome Georgene to the AVM. We also want to welcome Jim Smith who is taking over the Question Box column beginning with this issue. Be sure and send Jim lots of questions so he won't run out of material.

A mid-term meeting was held in Beaumont, Texas by the Executive Committee to formulate goals for the coming year and take action on any business pending between board of directors meetings. Friday morning, Albert McKinley, our printer, gave us a tour of the new Becker Printing Plant. On Saturday, the AVS of Beaumont hosted a luncheon at the Holiday Inn. One of the attendees was Beaumont's Mayor Maurice Meyers. The Executive Committee appreciated Mayor Meyers giving up his Saturday to have lunch with us ... and to everyone who helped to make our trip a success — a special thanks. I would like to thank the Executive Committee for taking the time to attend this meeting at their own expense.

The Building Site Committee is hard at work. This is not an easy task and we must be patient.

Once again may I emphasize, if you have a suggestion or any criticism, let us hear from you — this is the only way we can improve our services to our membership.

Happy growing and showing,

A cursive handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary A. Boland".

Newsline: AVSA Beaumont Office

Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager

LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR AFFILIATES

February 28 is the deadline for renewing your affiliate liability insurance. We need time to process your payments so that the insurance company can receive their payment before March 31. The policy period is from April 1, 1990 through March 31, 1991.

If your club has not, but would like to participate in the insurance for the new policy period, write or call us by January 31. Give us the following information:

- Name of Club
- Name and address of President
- Number of members in your club

If your club is a state, regional or council organization, ask us for a list of the chapters in your area that already have the insurance — no need to pay double coverage. The price is \$1.25 per member. When you give us the information (#'s 1 - 3) above, we will invoice your club and you will be covered beginning April 1, 1990.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION:

Please send in your convention registrations now; our hosts in Boston need to know, yesterday, the count for those having meals and taking workshops; so, try not to delay any longer.

FAILURE TO RECEIVE

YOUR AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE

If you paid for a membership and have not received your magazines, we could have some part of your address listed incorrectly. Magazines are mailed by the printer on the 30th or 31st of the month prior to the publishing date; example, January/February issue was mailed December 31. It normally takes one to two

weeks to receive your magazine; if you have not received it, after that waiting period, notify us right away.

RETURNING LIBRARY SLIDE PROGRAMS:

Our secretaries, Patsy and Cathy, have pleaded with me to remind you to enclose one copy of our invoice, when you return your slide program. We need the order number, name and address of the person who received the program so that we can finalize the order. When we ship to one person, and another person returns the program with a different name and address and no invoice, it makes it very difficult to find the order and remove it from computer.

We would also like to remind you to return your program as soon as it has been shown, because someone, somewhere else, is waiting for us to ship it to them.

Santa Claus was very good to a lot of people this year with gift memberships; or, maybe it was our members who gave the memberships; either way, we thank everyone who participated.

Even with all of your efforts, we are still a long way from receiving a 1000 new members; so, we decided to leave the gift application blank below hoping you would decide that anytime of the year is a GOOD time to give a membership and subscription to the African Violet Magazine — St. Valentine's Day, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day or just Any Day would make someone happy!

May the 1990s bring great success to all of your "growing" endeavors and may it bring to AVSA the greatest growth of membership in this century!

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Jane's Journal

Jane Birge, Editor

Happy New Year! Let's all begin the "gay" 90s with a promise of continued support of AVSA and that means bringing in new memberships. The Membership and Promotion Committee, ably chaired by Anne Tinari, has been very busy at work trying to make that membership number increase by leaps and bounds. Only with a growing membership can we improve the magazine, improve member benefits and spread the word about this incredible society. Make a pledge for 1990 — "Make someone a new member!"

The AVM begins the new decade with two new columnists who are making their debuts in this issue. *Don't miss* — Georgene Albrecht's "Family Portrait" and Jim Smith's "Question Box." We are looking forward to a long (possibly into the next century) relationship with these two and hope you enjoy their contributions. Read their columns over the next few issues and let me know what you think.

Recent visitors at the office, signing the guest book, have been Doris Myers of Alexandria, LA, Joyce Stenger of Germantown, MD and John Nabers of Houston. It's great when a member stops by — so if you're in the neighborhood give us a call — we'd love to visit with you.

We were all saddened here at the AVSA Office, with the death of Ray Lange of Houston. We will miss his visits at the conventions and I, personally, will miss the many articles he would contribute to the magazine. Our heartfelt sympathies go to his family.

The spring shows will begin very soon, so be sure to check the "Coming Events" and pick a few to attend. Look over the list and if you know someone in a certain area that just enjoys violets, but isn't a member, tell them about a particular affiliate show in their vicinity. Maybe we could acquire some new members just with that

little effort.

At the Kansas City AVSA Convention, I was pleased to have my parents, Cyril and Antoinette Birge of Jasper, IN, visit for two days. My mother who claims she "doesn't do very well with plants" was given several violets from David Buttram. Recently she sent me the photograph in the bottom right corner of this page. I do believe she's "hooked." I can even spot a gloxinia or two in the photo! My father has been a member for quite some time, so now I guess it's time to make my mother a member. So, I'll start 1990 by giving my mother her own membership. I better caution my father — she'll be asking him to build plant stands next!

It's hard to believe the Boston Convention is just two months away. Yikes! Ruth Warren, Convention Chairman, has done an outstanding job so far — and I expect Boston to be "the biggest and best ever," and I can't wait.



My mother's plants

IN MEMORY



RAYMOND H. LANGE

We were all saddened by the death of Raymond H. Lange on October 20, 1989. Ray is survived by his wife, Lillian, three children and two grandchildren. He was a teacher, organist and choir director for the Lutheran churches and schools. Having worked in St. Louis, Corpus Christi, and Houston, he had just retired from teaching this past year.

Ray became a member of AVSA in 1963 and has served in many capacities over the years. He was a Life Member, Master Judge and Teacher of African Violet Judges. The past several years he served on the Shows and Judges Committee by approving questions for all judging schools. While in St. Louis and Corpus, he was instrumental in forming affiliate clubs. After moving to Houston he had been very active in the African Violet Study Club of Houston, Sweet Vi-O-Lets of Tomball, Central Texas Judges Council and Lone Star African Violet Council, having held many elective offices through the years.

Ray will be best remembered by his many violet friends for his many beautiful design entries entered in local, state and national shows. We in the Study Club of Houston were lucky enough to have his entries in our show the weekend prior to his death.

His many workshops, programs, schools and his expertise in design will be greatly missed by all.

Meredith Hall

AVSA Booster Fund

*Ruth Warren
P. O. Box 3664
Fall River, MA 02722*

I thank all who have donated to the AVSA Booster Fund. The response is very gratifying to me as your new Booster Fund Chairman.

Would everyone please be sure to include an address with their contribution so I may send a thank you. There have been some that did not include an address. If your club has not received an acknowledgement from me, it is for this reason.

Remember, everyone contributing some small amount, make the results BIG. Let's make this fund grow. We can all help AVSA.

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Diablo Valley of AV Growers, Concord, CA	10.00
Copper City AVS, Rome, NY	10.00

NOT FOR BEGINNERS ONLY

Edward Bradford
85-25 86th Street, Woodhaven, NY 11421



STACKED IN THEIR FAVOR

Once a plant stand has been purchased or constructed and lamp fixtures and lamps selected, the plants can take their place in their new environment. The plants are placed on the trays; the lights hooked to a timer set for 14-16 hours. All that remains is to water and fertilize when necessary. The odds now seem to be stacked in the favor of frequent, abundant bloom. However, let us go a step further and stack the plants — forget the odds — so that they fit the space available and receive the maximum benefits of the light being provided.

In order to stack the plants each plant must be capable of independent placement. This independent placement requires that each plant be watered separately. Acceptable watering methods include top or bottom watering of plants individually saucered, wick-watered pots with separate reservoirs, and Texas-style pots each with its own saucer. Unacceptable methods include pots wicked into a common reservoir and pots sitting on capillary matting. In other words, it must be possible to establish each plant's relationship to the light source without regard to the other plants surrounding it. Independent placement is not possible with a common reservoir or matting because all plants on the shelf must sit at the same level. These methods also have other drawbacks which will be discussed when watering methods are reviewed in a future column.

Why Independent Placement

Each plant will make known its own light requirements. Sometimes even plants of the

same variety will differ. The grower must observe each plant's growth habits and make adjustments based on these observations. Fortunately, there are some general guidelines that can be applied to determine initial placement. The adjustments can follow.

Variegated foliage plants require more light than all green foliage plants. Photosynthesis, the manufacture of carbohydrates necessary for growth, occurs only in the leaves' chloroplasts. The presence of chloroplasts is indicated by the green of the chlorophyll which they contain. The leaf areas with little or no green have few or no chloroplasts and little or no photosynthesis occurs. The green portions of the leaf, therefore, must do additional duty. Increasing the light helps increase the rate of photosynthesis in these green portions. In order to increase the amount of light a variegated foliage plant receives from the fluorescent lamp (without extending the hours the lamp burns) the plant must be placed closer to the center of the tube and the distance reduced between the lamp and the foliage.

Some green foliage plants tend to fade after extended exposure to light. Several species exhibit this habit and it is not permanent. They resume their normal darker shade after a period of no light. I believe this habit indicates that the plant needs less light. In order to decrease the amount of light (without reducing the hours the lamp burns) the plant must be placed at the end of the shelf, the distance increased between the lamp and the foliage, or the foliage partially

shaded by a plant that has higher light requirements.

Contrary to what I stated in the September-October column, darker foliage seems to require less light than does paler foliage. Further observation seems to indicate that the darker foliage has a greater capacity to absorb the light while the paler foliage may reflect the light. I do not know the reason. Could it be that the chloroplasts are packed more compactly in the dark foliage, and, therefore, the plant is more efficient in its use of the light it receives? My experience so far with 'Pride of Dixie,' a recent almost black-green variety from Marie Burns is that it performs quite nicely on the corner of the shelf. When I had it too near the tube and too close to the center, the plant developed a very tight growth habit. The foliage flattened into a good rosette when it was moved to the corner.

Some plants need more light to grow compactly because their natural tendency is for sprawling openness. 'Pink Blueberry,' a Mike Kartuz hybrid which I suspect has *S. grandifolia* in its immediate background, can be forced to grow compactly when placed closer to the light. I place this variety about five to six inches closer to the light than the other standards on the same shelf. Although 'Pink Blueberry' is a dark foliage variety and would, at first glance, need less light because of its foliage color, the need to achieve compact growth takes precedence and the plant is given more light.

Young plantlets require more light than mature plants. The very rapid growth that plantlets exhibit seems to indicate that photosynthesis is occurring at a very rapid rate. In order to ensure compactness during the early stages of development, plantlets must be placed much closer to the light source. Generally until the plantlet is moved up to a four-inch pot, it is placed closer to the lamp than anything else on the shelf.

Finally, the more plants that one can place on a shelf, the cheaper the electric costs per plant. Last time I indicated that it costs about 46¢ per day (in New York) to operate a three-tier stand or about 15.4¢ per shelf. If the plants were all sitting at the same level, eight medium-size standards on one shelf would cost 1.93¢ per plant per day. Twelve plants of the same size on

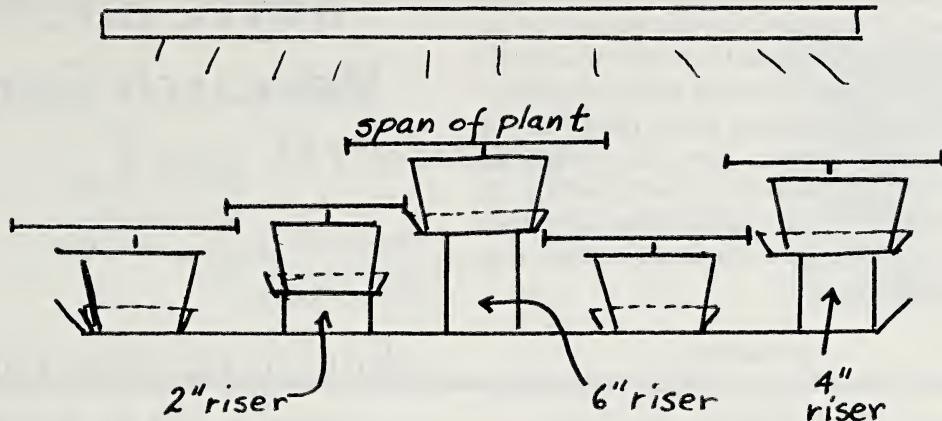
one shelf, stacked so that they did not hit each other, would cost only 1.28¢ per plant per day. More importantly is the fact that the plants will grow. Eight plants that very comfortably occupy a shelf will after six months be growing into each other. If one is to avoid adding more lights, he must be able to have the large plants use the same space as did the smaller ones. Stacking accomplishes this. Overlapping of foliage — as long as the leaves of one plant do not come in contact with those of its neighbors — does not appear to have any harmful effects.

Stacked to the Best Advantage

Any number of items — inverted flower pots, saucers, etc. — can be used to elevate or stack plants. The major requirement is that the item provide a firm footing so that if the plant stand is moved or bumped the elevated plant does not fall over. Small diameter pots are satisfactory for elevating small plants but should not be used for plants in five- or six-inch pots. Unless the large plant is precisely centered on the inverted pot there is risk of it falling off its perch.

While I have made use of many different items to elevate plants, PVC pipe has proved the most satisfactory and versatile. I use two different diameter sizes: two and four inch. The large diameter pipe is cut into mostly 1-1/2 and 2 inch lengths, but a few are as long as six inches. The different lengths give me the ability to elevate each plant according to its own requirement. The short lengths allow a plant to be raised enough that its foliage can overlap its neighbor's without touching. The long lengths allow a plant that needs additional light to maintain compactness to be placed as close to the fluorescent tube as is necessary. The small diameter pipe is used exclusively in the trays containing my miniatures and semiminatures as explained below. The PVC pipe provides a solid footing for the elevated plants and is easily cleaned. The following schematic diagram gives an indication of how these pipe risers can be used.

As is evident from the diagram at the top of the next page, each plant is in a separate saucer. I use the Texas-style potting method exclusively. If one uses wick-watered pots with separate reservoirs, it is still possible to elevate



Four foot tray

the plants. But a greater distance must exist between the tray and the light fixture in order to accommodate the additional height of the reservoirs.

The stacking of plants so that each receives the maximum of its light requirements does not eliminate the need to rotate them in order to achieve even growth. The physical design of every plant stand means that one side of a plant will be nearer the light while the other side is farther away. (The only exception to this situation is when the plants are centered on the shelf directly under the lights, an extravagant use of space that most growers would find unacceptable.) The plants still must be rotated on a regular basis. I strive to turn my plants 180° every five days when I water and check for problems such as suckers, etc. I use the adhesive-tape label on the side of each pot as a guide to whether it was turned. On each shelf all labels face the same direction.

Stacking Minis and Semis

If one's collection contains a number of miniatures and semiminiatures, I recommend that they be grouped together on a separate shelf. This will permit the placement of all the plants so that they are sufficiently close—three to four inches—to the lamps.

A four-foot tray can accommodate up to 40 plants. There is ample room for them when they have been newly potted. As they near their maximum permitted sizes they are shoving and bumping their neighbors. The two-inch diameter

PVC pipe cut into 1-1/2 inch lengths, is used to elevate every other plant. The following table in which an 'X' is an elevated plant illustrates this placement. The horizontal lines represent the fluorescent tubes.

O	X	O	X	O	X	O	X	O	X
X	O	X	O	X	O	X	O	X	O
O	X	O	X	O	X	O	X	O	X
X	O	X	O	X	O	X	O	X	O

I use two-lamp fixtures with eleven-inch spacing between the lamps. Even with this wider spacing the miniature and semiminiature plants on the outside rows are not under the lights and tend to lean quickly toward the light. This tilt becomes more pronounced more rapidly with these little plants than it does with standards. If my funds were sufficient, I would replace these fixtures with ones with three lamps and a greater distance between the two outer lamps.

To overcome the lack of adequate light reaching the plants on the outside rows, I shift the plants each time they are watered instead of individually rotating the plants. As they change places on the shelf they are automatically oriented differently to the lamp. An added advantage of shifting is that the plants on the end of the shelf have their turn under the light. Remember that the ends of a fluorescent lamp

produce almost no usable light. All portions of a fifteen-inch standard would eventually receive light as it is turned. If a small miniature at the end of the tube is turned and not shifted, it would be simply turning in the dark. The following tables explain how the plants are shifted. The arrows indicate the direction the plants tend to lean. The plants at the corners will lean toward the light diagonally rather than perpendicularly.

1st position

↓ 1 5 9 13 17 21 25 29 33 37

↑ 2 6 10 14 18 22 26 30 34 38
↓ 3 7 11 15 18 23 27 31 35 39

↓ 4 8 12 16 19 24 28 32 36 40

2nd position

↓ 8 12 16 20 24 28 32 36 40 4

↑ 5 9 13 17 21 25 29 33 37 1
↓ 6 10 14 18 22 26 30 34 38 2

↑ 7 11 15 19 23 27 31 35 39 3

3rd position - and so forth

↓ 11 15 19 23 27 31 35 39 3 7

↑ 12 16 20 24 28 32 36 40 4 8
↓ 9 13 17 21 25 29 33 37 1 5

↑ 10 14 18 22 26 30 34 38 2 6

Correction: In my September-October column I stated that "plants should never have 24 hours of light because darkness is needed for plants to use the food manufactured during the light period." This is incorrect. A full explanation requires a detailed discussion of plant metabolism. Suffice it to say that the light needs of African violets do not require more than 16-17 hours of light. Continuous light can even prove detrimental to good growth.

Next time: Potting and soil. ☺

Boyce Edens Research Fund

Marlene Brown
P. O. Box 38
Oreland, PA 19075

*Ring in the New Year ...
Send a gift to BERF
To Further Research!*

Donations received from July 20, 1989 through September 20, 1989.

Jefferson AVS, New Orleans, LA	25.00
Upper Pinellas AVS, Largo, FL in memory of Stanley Nelson	25.00
New York City AVS	10.00
The Unpredictable AVC, Kansas City, MO	10.00
Tustana AVS, Tustin, CA	30.00
AVS of the East Bay, Fremont, CA	25.00
Potomac Council of AV Judges, Herndon, VA	15.00
AVS of Hawaii, Honolulu	25.00
Town & Country AVS, Painesville, OH	25.00
Town & Country AVC, Minot, NC in memory of Hulda Freda	5.00
The First AVS of Denton, TX in memory of Mrs. Helen Stoneburner	10.00
San Diego Daytime AVS, CA in lieu of a speakers fee to Lynn Lombard	50.00
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St. Louis AV Judges Council, MO	10.00
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AVS of San Francisco, CA in memory of Bill Vann	10.00
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AVS of Philadelphia, PA	25.00
AVS of Philadelphia, PA in memory of Raleigh Carroll	25.00
Mid-America AVS, Kansas City, MO	10.00

See you in Boston!

Ask Your Hybridizer!

*Bill Johnson
1221 West River Road, #A2
Elyria, OH 44035*



Hybridizing is such an exciting endeavor. It keeps one "pumped up" and glad to be alive. The hybridizer experiences the joy of art and the challenge of science. There is also a social and spiritual element to it. The creation of beauty plays a part in making the world a better place.

If you make a few crosses with your violets, your confidence and interest will grow. Soon you could become engrossed in the happiest adventure of your life!

This column is for you. It is concerned with your goals, interests, ideas, experiences and aspirations. The purpose of these bi-monthly conversations is to offer information and inspiration. It is missionary in purpose. The goal is to communicate the contagious positive excitement of African violets!

I enjoy writing these columns. I do it for the fun of it. In life I think we should all try "to do a little good and have a lot of fun." If we enjoy our lives we will never be a burden to others.

Q. My question is about describing new cultivars. I am a little uncertain about single blossoms. I know that a blossom that is single in appearance but does not drop is genetically double. Should I describe these non-dropping single blossoms as singles or doubles?

A. The blossom of a new cultivar should be described by its outward appearance and not its genetic makeup. Therefore non-dropping singles are classified as single. I would offer this word of caution. Many times your seedlings will bloom single, but when the plants reach the full vigor of maturity some blossoms become semidouble. Unless they remain pure singles at all stages of growth and under all environ-

mental conditions they should not be classified as single.

Q. I have three plants from a leaf of a standard size violet that are semiminiature in size. This is an apparent mutation in size. Have you ever known this to happen?

A. A mutation of a standard to miniature does not happen very often. The mutation of miniature to semiminiature or standard size happens more frequently.

Q. What about describing the color of a blossom of a new cultivar? This is simple enough if the blossom is pale, medium or dark blue, pink, etc. But at what point does blue become purple? My "lavender" may be "mauve" to someone else, and the more complex colors often lead to confusing word combinations. Ernie Fisher used to give a number from the RHS (Royal Horticulture Society) Color Chart. Do you know where I could get a copy of the RHS Color Chart? I would like to use it to accurately describe the colors of my new hybrids.

A. It is a tribute to the professionalism of Ernie Fisher that he used the RHS Chart to describe the colors of his hybrids. Copies of the Royal Horticultural Colour Chart can be ordered from: Flower Council of Holland, Publication Department, 250 W. 57th Street, New York, NY 10019. The current price is \$45.00 ppd. Any hybridizer that plans to patent their hybrids will need to secure a copy of this international standard flower color chart. The use of this chart will not eliminate the current "color confusion" in hobbyist circles, since everyone would have to have a copy of the chart for reference. In the current edition of the chart,

color names are not used at all. A typical color description would be "RHS 71-A" or "RHS 62-D," which means nothing without the chart as reference.

Q. What is Colchicine? Why and how is it used on violets?

A. Colchicine is a chemical alkaloid that is prepared from the flowering bulb *Colchicum*. Supposedly, it is a remedy for gout. Plant breeders also discovered that colchicine could be used to cause African violets (and other plants) to double their chromosome number. In violets this is accomplished by treating only the growing tips (not the roots) of tiny seedlings with a colchicine solution. Another method is to place the colchicine solution on the base of the petiole of a leaf cutting a few days after it has been planted in the rooting medium. The colchicine prevents the usual cell walls from forming between two sets of 30 chromosomes, and you get a plant that has 60 chromosomes, called a tetraploid. Plants treated with colchicine often have thicker, broader leaves and flower parts. In violets this sturdiness of growth is hard and brittle and unshippable. While the bloom is long lasting it is less frequent. Taking these things into account, it is easy to understand why tetraploid violets, which were called "Amazons" or "Supremes" in times past, are no longer popular.

Q. I have a beautiful fantasy flower in my violet collection. The foliage on this variety is not of show quality. If I want to improve the quality of the foliage and keep the same flowers, what kind of cross would you suggest?

A. To improve the foliage on your fantasy, cross it with a pink colored blossom that has the type of foliage you desire. It will not make any difference whether you use your fantasy as the seed parent or the male parent. The results will be the same unless you want the foliage to be variegated. If you want variegated foliage, then set the seed on a variegated foliage plant. About half of your seedlings should have fantasy blossoms, and hopefully some will inherit the improved foliage.

Q. Do you know anyone today still using X-rays to produce mutations in plants or is this a thing of the past?

A. So far as I know, the use of X-rays to

produce mutations in plants is a thing of the past. In 1927, there was a great deal of experimentation begun using X-rays to obtain high rates of mutation in plants. For a time there was great optimism and considerable effort expended in this direction. Practical results soon proved so discouraging that the experiments largely ceased. It was found that the mutations induced by X-rays had a ratio of 800 unfavorable to one favorable. I do not know of any serious research being conducted with X-rays at the present. ☺

Kansas City Winners For Yearbooks, Newsletters, Magazines

Winners for the best yearbook, best newsletter and best magazine awards at the 1989 Kansas City AVSA Convention/Show were:

Best Yearbook - AVS of Lower Bucks County, *Bill Lyons & Vera Reinert*.

Second Best Yearbook - Mid America AVS, *Janet Wickell*.

Third Best Yearbook - Nite Bloomers, *Al Cornibe*.

Fourth Best Yearbook - Jefferson AV Assn., *Debbie Gainey*.

Best Newsletter - "Florida Connection," AVC of Florida, *Carol Schreck*.

Second Best Newsletter - Sho-Me AV Newsletter, Sho-Me Club, *Rebecca Poindexter*.

Best Magazine - Dixie News, Dixie AVS, *Barbara Strock*.

Second Best Magazine - Leaves, Illinois AVS, *Joe & Janice Bruns*.

New Year's Resolution #1

New memberships for AVSA
in 1990!

Introducing Your AVSA Nominees ...



Mary Boland
... for President



A. Charles Bollar
... for 1st Vice Pres.



Hortense Pittman
... for 2nd Vice Pres.



L. T. Ozio, Jr.
... for 3rd Vice Pres.



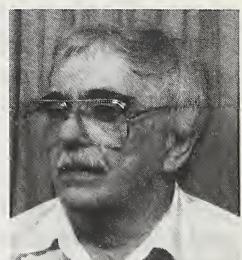
Janet Riemer
... for Secretary



Nancy Hayes
... for Treasurer



Deborah S. Griffith
... for Director



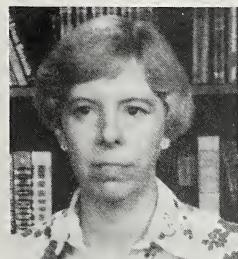
William R. Lyons
... for Director



Ann Miller
... for Director



Joyce Stork
... for Director



Sue Ramser
... for Director

The Nominating Committee will present the following slate for election at the Annual Meeting during the AVSA Convention in Boston, Massachusetts, on Saturday, March 24, 1990:

FOR PRESIDENT: Mary A. (Mrs. Arthur F.) Boland's name will be presented for election as President of the African Violet Society of America, Inc. Mary is from Alexandria, Virginia and has been an AVSA member for 30 years. Mary is a Life Member, Master Judge and Teacher.

She has served as Chairman of the Booster Fund, Plant Registration, International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants and Master Variety List.

Mary is the recipient of the AVSA Honorary One Year Membership Award and the Continuing Service Award. She has worked many years as a Judges consultant at convention shows and has served on the Library Committee, Membership and Promotion, as well as being an AVSA Director. She has attended AVSA conventions for the last 25 years.

At the local level Mary has served as President, and held other offices as well as Show Chairman. She is a charter member of the Old

Dominion African Violet Society of Northern Virginia and the Potomac Council of African Violet Judges. Mary was honored by the Old Dominion African Violet Society with a Lifetime Membership in 1971. She is now serving as their AVSA Representative.

Mary frequently shares her African violet knowledge by giving programs for organizations in addition to teaching judging schools. She has been the moderator for the Beginner's Forum at national convention since its inception.

Mary is a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians, is married and has four daughters and six grandchildren.

In 1976-1977, Mary was selected as a Community Leader of Virginia for her work with young people.

FOR FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: A. Charles Bollar of Northridge, California joined AVSA in 1974 and became a member of Granada Hills, Santa Monica, Ventura, Bellflower and San Fernando affiliates.

His first job was chairman of the Fun Fair that all Southern California affiliates participated in. Charles has conducted beginners classes and has given lectures to affiliates and garden clubs. He has also promoted African violets by giving seminars at motorhome conventions along with his wife, Avanelle.

Charles has served as president and vice president of the Granada Hills affiliate and later became treasurer of the Southern California Council, as well as vice president and president. He was show chairman of several council shows and chairman of the AVSA convention in Los Angeles in 1985.

He served for three years on the AVSA Affiliate Committee with Mildred Schroeder as chairman.

Both Charles and Avanelle are Life Members and Judges and Charles is the recipient of the AVSA Honorary One Year Membership.

Hybridizing is a special interest and he now has four registered plants.

Traveling is a special joy of the Bollars which they do as often as possible, planning most of their trips around AVSA conventions and Executive Committee meetings.

FOR SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: Mrs. J.

R. (Hortense) Pittman of San Antonio, Texas has been an AVSA member for 18 years and is an AVSA Judge.

Hortense attended her first AVSA convention in St. Louis in 1977 and has attended every convention since. She and her husband, Sundown, became interested in hybridizing through the late Howard Utz some 12 years ago and together they operate "Hortense's African Violets." At the 1986 AVSA Convention in St. Paul, Hortense and Sundown were awarded the AVSA Bronze Medal for Horticultural Perfection.

A member of Dixie African Violet Society, she is a former president of the Lone Star African Violet Council, the San Antonio African Violet Council, and the Central Texas Judges Council. As a member of the Magic Knight African Violet Society, she has served as its president, first vice president and show chairman.

She has served as a member of the AVSA Board of Directors and third vice president.

Other than growing and showing many violets, Hortense and her husband enjoy doing many programs on violet culture throughout the state. They judged the first AVSA show in Mexico, where they have conducted a number of workshops.

FOR THIRD VICE PRESIDENT: L. T. Ozio, Jr. of Morgan City, Louisiana joined AVSA in 1973 and has been growing African violets for over 21 years. He and his wife, Yvonne, are charter members of their local affiliate, the Atchafalaya Violet Society, and are active in this 14-year-old club.

L. T. and Yvonne are both AVSA Judges and are members of the Louisiana Council of African Violet Judges. L. T. was its charter secretary and served two consecutive terms.

Active in his affiliate, L. T. has promoted violets through many facets. He has given demonstrations on African violets and other gesneriads at other AVSA affiliates and local garden and fraternal organizations.

L. T. is presently chairman of the AVSA Library Committee and has served as a member of the AVSA Board of Directors.

A graduate of Tulane University, L. T. is co-owner of his family's seafood business. He is

especially interested in research and is a member of the Louisiana Society of Horticulture Research.

FOR SECRETARY: **Mrs. Donald (Janet) Riemer** is from Pennington, New Jersey and has been a member of AVSA since 1964. African violet culture and related activities have been a major interest of Janet's since 1961. A member of the Union County Chapter since 1969, she has served as an officer for 12 years, including six as president. She has served on numerous committees, including her affiliate's yearbook committee for 17 years. She is a Life Member and Senior Judge, and AVSA conventions have been her vacations for 16 years. At the 1984 Philadelphia Convention Show she served as Show Vice Chairman and Entries Chairman and was awarded the first AVSA Hudson Memorial Award for Affiliate Leadership.

Janet has been active since 1971 in the Tri-state AV Council as an officer and show committee chairman. She has presented programs on African violet culture, judging, and Max Maas varieties at numerous affiliate meetings throughout the New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania area.

Elected an AVSA Director in 1985, she became Secretary in 1986 and received a Continuing Service Award in 1987.

Married, with two adult children, she taught for 16 years and is now a preservationist and archivist in the Special Collections and Archives Department at the Rutgers University Library.

FOR TREASURER: **Mrs. John (Nancy) Hayes, Jr.,** is from Bloomfield, Connecticut and has been an AVSA member for 25 years. She is a Life Member and Senior Judge. She serves as a consultant to the judges at convention shows and is currently a member of the Finance, Salary, Library, Convention and Building Fund committees. She has been AVSA Treasurer since 1985 and a member of the Board of Directors since 1980. She recently retired as writer of the "Question Box" column in the AVM for the past eight years, one of her AVSA jobs that gave her the most satisfaction.

Nancy is a member of Windsor AVS, Nutmeg State AVS and the Bay State Judges Council, all of which she has served as president. She

frequently talks to other violet clubs and garden clubs in her area on African violets and design.

She is a registered nurse and is currently the night supervisor of a 300 bed health care facility. Her husband John is a senior financial systems analyst for CIGNA insurance corporation. Daughter Mary Beth and husband Kevin reside in the Kansas City area where she is pursuing her doctorate in religious education and pastoral counseling. Kevin is employed by Hallmark Cards; son Mark is currently a senior at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO with his eyes to the skies in the very near future; daughter Kathleen is a sophomore at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ with speech therapy as a major, and step-son John and wife Lisa and granddaughters Samantha and Kelsey reside in Hershey, PA where John is a banker in nearby Harrisburg.

FOR DIRECTOR: **Deborah S. Griffith,** of Lakewood, Colorado, became involved with African violets in 1977 when her aunt gave her some starter plants. After keeping those plants alive for over a year, although with no bloom, she decided that plants with such perseverance deserved her full attention, so she joined AVSA and a local club.

Currently Deborah serves as president of the Rocky Mountain African Violet Council. She has also served as newsletter editor for the Council and has held various positions with the Council's annual show. Locally, Deborah is a member of the Rocky Potters and has served as president, vice president, treasurer, and yearbook editor. She is also a Judge and has given workshops and programs locally.

Deborah is married and has one daughter. She is employed as a legal assistant with Storage Technology Corporation. Her other interests include cross stitching, history, quilting, and the mountains.

FOR DIRECTOR: **William R. Lyons,** of Levittown, Pennsylvania, and his wife, Kazuko, have been growing African violets for about 17 years and have been members of AVSA for 15 years.

In 1974, Bill helped to organize the African Violet Society of Lower Bucks County in Levittown. He is the only active charter member and

has held the offices of president three times, vice president, treasurer, and show chairman "more times than he cares to remember." Serving as Yearbook Chairman for the past 15 years, Bill's publications have earned blue ribbons each year and have been awarded the Blue Rosette three times and the White Rosette once.

Bill is an AVSA Life Member, Senior Judge, and Teacher. He currently serves as first vice president of the Tri-State Council of African Violet Clubs. He also assisted in founding the African Violet Club of Burlington, New Jersey in 1987.

Both Bill and Kazuko are in demand to give programs, primarily on design, to many affiliates, garden clubs, and civic organizations in a four state area. Currently, Bill serves on the AVSA Membership and Promotion Committee.

FOR DIRECTOR: Ann Miller, of Centerville, Ohio, has been a member of AVSA since 1980 and a Judge since 1983. Formerly from Houston, Texas, she was a member of the Sweet Vi-O-Lets African Violet Club and served as president, secretary, treasurer, and show chairman. Ann was also a member of the African Violet Study Club, the Central Texas Judges Council, and the Lone Star African Violet Council of which she served as secretary.

Currently Ann is a member of the Springfield African Violet Club, the Ohio State African Violet Society, and the Ohio State African Violet Judges Council. She is also involved in establishing an African violet club in the Dayton, Ohio area at this time. In addition, Ann has given programs on both design and horticulture for garden clubs and African violet clubs.

Ann is a registered nurse and her husband, Ron, is an engineer. They have four children and eight grandchildren. Ann's other interests include gardening and quilting.

FOR DIRECTOR: Sue Ramser, of Wichita Falls, Texas, has been a member of the First African Violet Society of Wichita Falls for 18 years. She has served as show chairman, secretary, treasurer, vice president, and president - four times.

As a member of the Lone Star African Violet Council, Sue has been newsletter editor, secretary, vice president, and president. Sue is also

active in the North Texas African Violet Judges Council, having served as corresponding secretary, secretary, and president.

At the AVSA Convention in Austin in 1978, Sue was a member of the classification committee and in 1988 was the president's aide for the AVSA Convention in Dallas. Currently, Sue is serving as vice chairman of the AVSA Affiliate Committee. She is also an AVSA Life Member and Senior Judge.

Sue is a graduate of the University of North Texas in Denton with a Bachelor of Business Administration. Her husband, Charles, is a Professor of Management at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls. They have four children. The Ramser family was selected as Wichita Falls' Family of the Year in 1989. Sue's other interests include sewing and knitting.

FOR DIRECTOR: Joyce A. Stork, of Arlington, Nebraska, has been an AVSA member for 15 years and a commercial member since 1978. She is also a Judge. Joyce was Show Chairman for the 1989 AVSA Convention in Kansas City. Currently she serves as vice chairman of the AVSA Awards Committee.

Locally, Joyce is a member of the Lincoln African Violet Society. She also helped charter the Missouri Valley African Violet Council in 1985 and served as its first president. She is currently the editor of the MVAVC Council News.

A graduate of the University of Nebraska, Joyce has written several articles and has conducted numerous seminars on African violets. She taught in the Lutheran school system for five years before her two sons were born.

Joyce and her husband, Kent, operate Kent's Flowers and have exhibited a commercial display table at every AVSA convention since Syracuse in 1982. They were awarded the AVSA Bronze Medal for Horticultural Achievement at the 1989 AVSA Convention in Kansas City.

**Check the Nov./Dec. 1989 issue
of the AVM
for complete
convention details.**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Hello to all African Violet Friends around the world!

What you have read in the papers and heard on TV is right about the earthquake in California. Some areas got more publicity when it happened but that was no doubt because the TV and radio stations were in the area.

This quake centered in the Santa Cruz area. The mountains in the area were moved four feet, according to the news. Violet people living in Santa Cruz, Ray and Irene Britton, and Cathy Cornibe, had damage to their homes, plants and crystal. Ilene Rhodas from Los Gatos area fell and hit her head on a piano, causing a slight contusion; however, she is okay. When she was asked what happened at her home, she wanted to know what room we wanted to hear about first. Everything, apparently, was a mess. Anne Jantzen and Dorothy Gawienowski lost a lot of crystal.

For me, I sat in the chair and watched knick-knacks fall, pictures swing, table lamps flying and a floor lamp hitting the dust. My plant stands just watched it come and go, nothing moved but one little plant that hit the floor.

Sincerely,

Celine Chase
Redwood City, CA

Transvaal AVS
P. O. Box 760
Pyramid 0120
Republic of South Africa

Dear Editor,

Through the courtesy of AVM, please extend to you all our heartfelt sympathy. The devastation of parts of your beautiful California, the

loss of life and tragedy is deeply felt.
Most sincerely,

Joan Halford
President

Southern Africa Violet Society

Dear Editor,

We held our annual show in Krugersdorp, South Africa, and it was titled a fantastic show. The theme was, "Nursery Rhymes." We expected about 200 entries and had more than 700 African violets in full bloom.

The biggest blossom of the show was *Moonflower* and was 7 cm in diameter and displayed by one of the novice growers, Marge Jansen. She wouldn't tell anyone how she got the dream size, but it was rumored that she used pine needle compost.

For the theme, all members helped to decorate the show avenue. There were about 30 dolls, 20 cars, several rattlers and even an aeroplane. In one corner was a huge frog cushion where the children visiting the show could play.

The Mayor of Krugersdorp, Col. Kobus Meyering, cut the ribbon for the official opening of the show. Douglas Wilding from the United Kingdom also attended, much to everyone's delight.

The members of the club presented a feast for the 60 or so special invited guests.

Alas, but all good things must come to an end and the members were very tired but grateful to the public who did not even try to pinch one leaf this year.

A friendly greeting from sunny South Africa,
Lukas M. Otto, President & Founder
Southern Africa Violet Society

QUESTION BOX



James Smith
1126 Ferry Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14301



I am not sure I can fill the shoes of all the past Question Box columnists; however, it is because of them, and this wonderful magazine, that I have learned so much. I will surely give this new responsibility my best shot. If you would like a personal answer to your questions, please enclose a SASE with your letter. Please be patient; I will respond as soon as possible. I would appreciate any comments you may have. It is important that we share ideas, methods, and solutions to problems, so please write.

To start, the following are a few questions that were received recently:

Question: The cold season is just around the corner and with it is the possible plight of powdery mildew. It seems to attack my collection during this time every year. Is there anything that can be done to eliminate this problem?

Answer: Powdery mildew can form at a time during the year when temperatures decrease and humidity rises. Since I grow in the basement, mildew is an occasional problem. All you need is the right environmental conditions and it will become an aggravated problem. This fungus attack can not be ignored as it will ruin your plant collection.

In the AVSA "Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors, and Judges," and in Pauline Bartholomew's, "Growing To Show," there are excellent descriptions of this problem as well as information concerning the control. Watch for whitish-gray powder on foliage, blossoms and stems. Some blossoms may be deformed and discolored. To control, isolate the infected plants. Remove all damaged foliage and blossoms. (Never do this in or near

your plant room as the mildew spores, when disturbed, will travel through the air and infect other plants.) You will need to spray with a fungicide. I use Lysol brand spray disinfectant. It can be sprayed lightly on and around the plants without causing harm to foliage. The spray will damage blossoms. Spray walls, trays, any equipment that will come in contact with your plants. For badly damaged plants, I find it wise to just discard. It takes too long for the specimen to recover. The trick is not to neglect your plant collection long enough for this type of problem to take control.

Temperature fluctuations and poor air circulation are your collection's worst enemies. Running a fan for 24 hours a day, maintaining humidity levels between 50% to 60%, and not allowing the temperature to vary no more than 10 degrees at anytime, spraying occasionally with a reliable fungicide, all have been my best solutions for control and even elimination of mildew. It was suggested in the Question Box column of the 1989 September-October issue of the AVM, that a product called Funginex was being used with great success. Use according to package instructions. In the north, this product can be obtained in most garden supply stores. For locating it elsewhere, write to the following address: Ortho Consumer Guide, 1728 Montreal Center, Suite 12, Tucker, GA 30084 or phone 1-404-934-0494. This is a liquid product and I am told that it does work. I plan to do some testing and I will share the results.

Question: I have heard so much concerning pests and diseases that I am not sure where to start, concerning prevention. Could you give me some clues?

Answer: As a Judging School Teacher, I make sure this area is well covered during my lectures. (Beware, future students, it's on the exam too.) Pages 27-34 of the "AVSA Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors, and Judges," describe in detail the preventive measures that all growers and exhibitors need to know to maintain their prized collections. There are two types of measures to be considered. The first is routine. To briefly list some of the, be concerned with the following:

1. Thoroughly inspect your collection on a daily basis.
2. Inspect and isolate newly purchased plants from your collection.
3. Do not expose your African violets to cut flowers or other potted plants from outside sources.
4. Use good sanitary practices. Wash all pots, trays, mats, etc., in a sanitizing solution. Keep adequate space between all plants. Keep all plants cleaned and well groomed.
5. Use sterilized soil and dispose of all used soil which may contain diseased organisms.

The second preventive measure is chemical. The best advice I can give is, "If you have to spray, throw it away." I don't think anyone likes to use harsh chemicals on their plants, but sometimes it is necessary.

Chemicals may be applied as sprays, drenches, or granules. Before you purchase and use them, read the label for proper application. On page 29 of the Handbook, is a pesticide chart developed by Dr. Charles L. Cole. I find it a valuable guide to help the grower eliminate our beloved African violet from the menus of pest restaurants.

Question: My Show Committee wouldn't let me enter a plant because I did not have a name for it. I bought it at the supermarket and grew it into a beautiful specimen. There was no label and it could not be identified. I was so disappointed. Was there anyway to have prevented this?

Answer: On page 43 in the AVSA "Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors, and Judges," provides us with guidelines and regulations as well as providing solutions to questions such as yours. The rule is as follows: "All African violets and species, cultivars, and

other gesneriads shall be correctly named. However, all cultivar names need not be listed in AVSA publications. A cultivar does not have to be listed in the Master Variety List or supplements to be entered in an affiliate or convention show. Sometimes older varieties were never listed for some reason or another. Also some cultivars may be so new that they have not been listed, but this should not keep them from being accepted for entry in an AVSA show. A hybridizer's list may be presented, but is not required."

I would have suggested that for the sake of entry, any name could have been given to the plant and that would have been perfectly 'legal.' If you send a description to some of the commercials who advertise in the AVM, they might be of help to you. To me, it is very frustrating not knowing the name of a cultivar, especially if its during the time of show entries.

Question: I am very interested in becoming a Judge. Can you give me a few guidelines as to where to start? What is required?

Answer: To be an AVSA Judge is indeed an honor and a privilege. It takes a great amount of study and experience to qualify. To start, all you need to do is register for an AVSA approved school and present to the teacher a current AVSA membership card. It is a must that you have a current copy of the AVSA Handbook for African Violet Growers, exhibitors, and Judges. You can obtain a copy from the AVSA Office. The address is located on the inside front cover of the AVM.

For further information, you may want to write to the AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman, Mrs. James. B. Savage, 39 Mead Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601. She would be more than happy to point you in the right direction. Please refer all questions pertaining to judging to Mrs. Savage, as she is responsible for this AVSA committee.

Question: I have a problem with my African violets. The outer leaves get limp and fall down around the pots. I grow them in a west window. The windows are covered with sheer curtains. Do you have any clues as to what might be wrong?

Answer: I have experienced this problem in my basement environment. Those plants that

were grown on the edge of the bench, or in areas where the light source was limited, had leaves that turned 'mushy' and limp-like. This condition was quite sudden and was noticed right away. I usually rotate plants on the benches in order to provide a balanced exposure to the light source. Those that I forget are the ones that usually have this problem. Because they were growing at the edge of the light source, the water was not utilized fast enough. If not corrected, this condition could lead to crown rot. All plants were repotted into fresh, dry soil, and moved directly into the light source; they slowly recovered. High temperatures may also cause the leaves to curl around the pot. Violets grow best in temperatures between 70 and 80 degrees with a slight drop of 5 to 10 degrees at night. Keep plants evenly moist to the touch, not wet.

My advice would be to check your light source and increase it if it seems to be lacking. Next, check the soil to see if it is saturated with water. An accumulation of water and fertilizer not being utilized properly by the plant, can cause many problems. Providing the correct growing conditions will ensure many months of blooming smiles from your prized collections. ☺

The Poet's Corner

Violets are like some people who make life seem more worthwhile.
They do the nicest things for you and always with a smile.
Their colors come in many hues which practices the art
Of reaching out to others and by giving from the heart.

Doris St. Clair

Still — in a way — nobody sees a flower — really
It is so small — we haven't time —
And to see takes time,
Like to have a friend takes time.

Georgia O'Keeffe

Corrections & Omissions For September 1989 Judges List

Alaska

Walsh, Amelia, 2045 Eastridge Dr., Anchorage 99501

Canada

+* Tapping, Elizabeth A., 1512-511 The West Mall, Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 1G5

California

+* Breden, Ralph, 127 Via Los Altos, Redondo Beach 90277

+* Beck, Gary R., 1155 Pine #4, San Francisco 94109

+* Elkin, Barbara J., 2855 Gayle Lane, Auburn 95603

+* Jantzen, Mrs. J. K., 2725 Katrina Way, Mountain View 94040

Skidmore, Lee M., 5087 N. Indianola, Clovis 93612

Florida

Hayes, Mrs. Judson H., 2824 Oak Cove Ln., Jacksonville 32211

+* Mugovero, Diane, 9950 SW 213 St., Miami 33189

s Courson, Barbara J., 527 Willow Run Knoll, Lakeland 33183

Iowa

+* Jones, Mrs. Maurice E., 1206 7th St., Box 34, Durant 52747

New York

Denison, Eileen, 10 Brookfield Run, Queensbury 12804

North Carolina

Bunn, Lorena, Rt. 3 Box 613-B, Snow Hill 28580

Texas

s Gonzales, John, 2716 Marshall, Pasadena 77506

Wisconsin

Plummer, Sarah E., 2452 Longtail Beach Ln., Suamico 54173

s Wilson, Joan K., 13830 Watertown Plank Rd., Elm Grove 53122

Boston ... Here We Come!

AVSA Building Fund

Nell-Sue Tyson
2030 E. Amherst Avenue
Denver, CO 80210



It is a thrill to see the shaded area of the "Climb the Peaks to our Dream Home," increasing toward reality! With fall at hand (we had a beautiful snow in Denver in early September), activities have picked up as well as contributions. For all of the first time contributors, we are most grateful. Many individuals, affiliates and councils are now donating on a regular basis. Their support is heart warming and their loyalty to AVSA unquestionable. Won't we be proud to have our own AVSA home in the not too distant future?

Donations received from July 25 through August 25:

August, 1989

Marilyn Goldstein, FL

in memory of Miriam Jones \$25.00

Potomac Council of AV Judges, VA 15.00

AVS of Hawaii 25.00

Charlotte E. Lynn, NJ

honorarium for speaking

to Lakeland Garden Club 10.00

Don L. Thornburg, CA 15.00

Tempe AV Culture Club, AZ

in memory of Marjorie Gray 15.00

George C. Park, IN 13.50

St. Louis AV Judges' Council, MO 10.00

Lake Shore AVS, Inc., IL 20.00

Total for the month - \$148.50

TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS - \$55,993.32

September, 1989

Contributions received from Aug. 25 through Sept., 1989.

AV Council of Florida

in memory of Warren B. Partain, husband of

Judy Partain, past president 25.00

AVS of Canton, OH 15.00

Don L. Thornburg, CA 15.00

Magic Knight AVS, TX 25.00

Marilyn Goldstein, FL 160.00

Marilyn Goldstein, FL 60.00

AV Association of Gardeners, FL

in memory of Major Warren B. Partain, Sr. 25.00

AVS of Philadelphia, PA

in lieu of speaker's fee to Bill & Kay Lyons 25.00

First AVS of Spartanburg, SC 10.00

AVS of Philadelphia, PA

in memory of William Brady, past president 25.00

Metropolitan St. Louis AV Council 200.00

Mrs. Elizabeth (Betty) Tapping, Ont., Canada 25.00

Central Connecticut AVS

in memory of club member, Hazel Gallagher 25.00

Helen E. Robertson, CA 26.50

Union County AVS of NJ 50.00

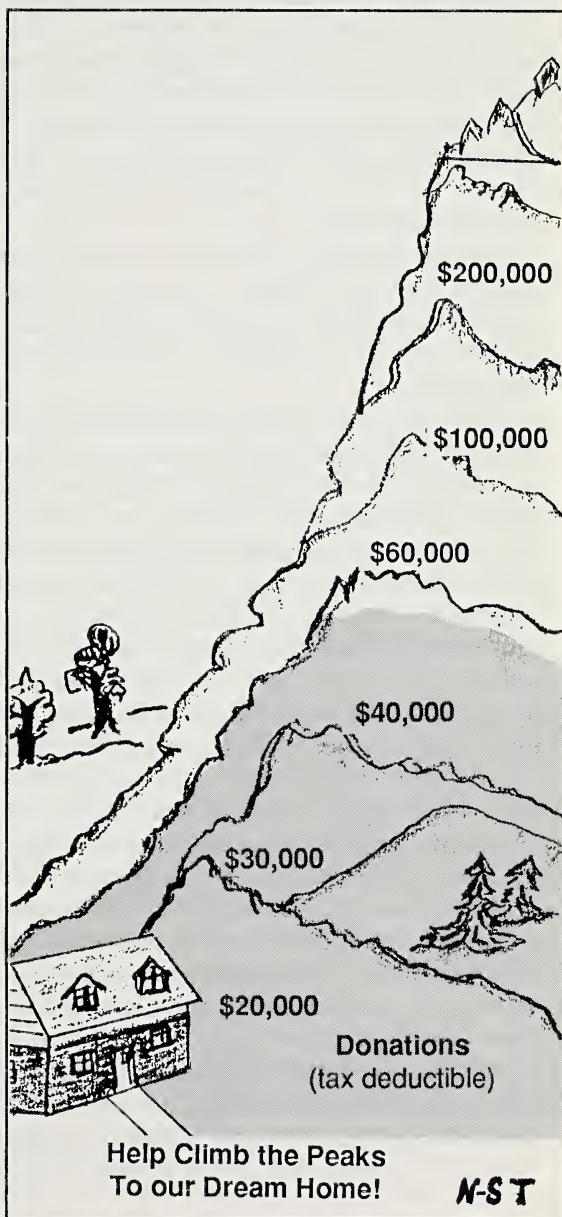
AV Culture Club, TX

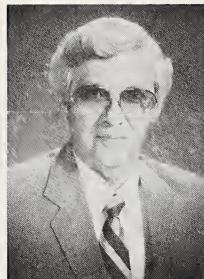
honoring beloved Grace Foote 100.00

Atchafalaya VS of America, LA 25.00

Total for the month - \$836.50

TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS - \$56,829.82





AVSA AFFILIATES

*Bill Foster
Affiliate Chairman
3610 Gray Drive
Mesquite, Texas 75150*

Well, here we are in a new year already! I cannot understand how the time passes so fast. I hope that everyone had a nice holiday season. If you were wishing for a new plant stand for Christmas, hopefully, you received it. We all need more room under the lights at this time of year so we can give those spring show plants the space they need to develop properly. We also need to start "stashing our cash" for the Boston convention. Can you believe it is less than three months away?

Since it is a New Year, let's make some resolutions for our Affiliates. At the top of the list should be to strive to get 100% AVSA membership in your club if you haven't already attained this status.

Next, let's make an all out effort to promote AVSA in a bigger way. There are a number of ways we can do this. For instance, give an AVSA membership to a guest speaker, as a speaker's gift. You should consider AVSA memberships as Christmas gifts or give a Life Membership to someone who is very dear to you. You can purchase AVSA jewelry for yourself, friends or relatives that have "violet disease," and please consider donations to the AVSA Building Fund, Boyce Edens Research Fund, and AVSA Booster Fund as memorials, speaker gifts, or in lieu of a get-well bouquet. Always be on the "lookout" for people who are interested in our hobby and encourage them to join an Affiliate and AVSA.

We do have some new Affiliates — unfortunately, it seems that we gain one and lose one. We would like to gain without losing, but at least over the past few years we have maintained about 500 Affiliated Clubs.

This year let's strive to gain without losing! I would also like to encourage the clubs to fill out and send in their renewals as early as possible. The AVSA Office will be very busy with con-

vention registrations.

Also, please send your new officers to the AVSA Office by June 1 in order to have the correct officers listed in the AV Magazine.

Good luck in your spring shows — HAPPY NEW YEAR, and I'll see you in Boston. ♡



"*Violets Along Nature's Trail*" was the theme for the Silvermine AVS of CT. Shown is the best in show, *Wood Trails*, exhibited by Janice Tyler-Sadler.



mini - tidbits



Florence Naylor

2647 Harbor Boulevard, Ventura, CA 93001

I would like to introduce to you the members of the Miniature/Semiminiature committee. It was my hope to have people living in different regions of the country serve on this committee so that we might get better feed back from all areas on what you were doing in growing your miniature African violets. The standing committee consists of: Marcia Shaver, 1187 Buckingham Dr., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360; Carroll Gealy, 1924 Elmbury Rd., Westlake Village, CA 91361; Gerri Goins, 11030 Silkwood Dr., Houston, TX 77031; Ray Dooley, 214 Thompson St., New York, NY 10012; Eva Harp, 7511 Middlebury Place, Charlotte, NC 28212; Pat Champagne, 22214 Meadowrock Dr., Spring, TX 77389; Hector Becerra, 212 Briarcliff Dr., San Antonio, TX 78213; and Judy Partain, 9 Hummingbird Lane, Winterhaven, FL 33880.

It would be wonderful to have you share your ideas with the committee member living closest to you. In many cases, they will be able to help you with answers to your particular questions on regional horticulture conditions, as well as general tips peculiar to growing miniatures. For example, I know it is often difficult to keep some miniature varieties within the dimensions of six inch diameter leaf span. This is especially difficult if you live in warm climates and water by wick, capillary matting, or "Texas Style." Bottom watering with a constant feed fertilizer promotes rapid growth in all varieties, but is not always desired in minis. Rapid growth can be contained somewhat by pot size. The smaller the pot the smaller the leaf size. A good example are the micro minis grown in the thumb pots. If you pot those same plants in a 2" - 2 1/2" pot they will have larger leaves, and grow much larger in diameter.

Raid growth can be somewhat contained by fertilizing with a low nitrogen fertilizer in weaker more dilute concentrations. Temperature always plays a significant role in plant growth. The cooler the environment, the slower the growth in most cases. Those living in warm areas have to rely on air conditioning to maintain cooler temperatures, etc.

Regional problems are best answered by those familiar with the problem. On the other hand some problems that may seem regional can also be a general problem. Since we discovered growing under lights, watering "Texas Style," and in general adhere to the same basic horticulture practices our growing environments are becoming more standardized and the same around the country. With this in mind, do let your area committee member know what you are doing to overcome your problems in dealing with pests, culture, watering, fertilizing, etc. One never knows when your ideas and solutions can assist someone else with a similar problem.

I thank all who reported Spring Show winners. During the transition many of them have NOT appeared in the AVM. I apologize for omitting them now, but feel with the New Year, New Decade commencing, and early AVSA convention, the space might be better used for convention information. Do send me your "Favorite 25 Cultivar List." The list can include miniatures, semiminiatures, microminiatures of trailers and single crown plants. A brief statement on what you like about the cultivar would be helpful. They can be registered or unregistered. The deadline for inclusion in our survey is March 15, 1990, (just before the Boston convention).

I am working on a reporting form one can use to send in particulars on cultivars you raise. If you would like to become a reporting source send me a self addressed stamped #10 (business) envelope and I will send you a reporting

form.

Continue to send in your show winners as they occur. There will be plenty of room to publish them in the AVM after Boston. I look forward to hearing from ALL of you. ☺

Dixie Fiesta de Violeta

San Antonio, Texas

Lynda C. Welchel, Publicity Chairman

You are invited to the 34th Dixie Convention to be held in San Antonio, Texas, April 25-29, 1990 at the Seven Oaks Convention Center. The convention is being jointly sponsored by Central Texas Judges Council and Magic Knight African Violet Society, San Antonio. Start the 90s off right. Come to San Antonio for "Dixie Fiesta de Violeta."

Now is the time to think about your schedule for this spring and mark your calendar to attend what promises to be a very exciting and stimulating convention. Convention committees are already hard at work. The cost of a room will be kept to \$40 per person for 1-4 persons. This of course will leave more money to purchase those violets we cannot live without; unique one of a kind gifts from the Country Boutique, and lots of other goodies.

Would you like to know where to find the best fajitas in Texas? Would like to find out what fajitas are? What keeps people from all parts of the country coming back to a particular city? In what other city can you find major restaurants, shrines, shops, galleries, museums, and historical points of interest, Sea World, and one of the nations best zoos? And, last but not least, one of the nation's best African violet hybridizers of minis and semiminis and several other commercial people also.

San Antonio has its share of "posh restaurants" for those that are inclined, but the holes-in-the-wall and many small out of the way places are where you will find some of the best food available. Be it Chinese, Indian, Japanese, French Mexican, Vietnamese, German, and many others, you will find that these are in

abundance in the Alamo City. You may be certain that long after the convention has come and gone, the memory of this city and all it has to offer, will haunt you and beckon you to return.

Speaking of the downtown area, the feature that takes 2nd place to the Alamo is the River Walk or sometimes referred to as Paseo Del Rio. Natives and visitors alike never tire of returning to this mecca. The River Walk is part Texas, part Bourbon Street, part European, and part Mexican. It is a one and one-half mile walk or ride of delightful sidewalk cafes, shops, art galleries, bars, hotels, in addition to the sights, sounds and smells of this lovely city. Stroll along the river, or take a boat ride, sip a cup of coffee at an outdoor cafe and watch the world go by.

The River Walk is stretched along on either side of the San Antonio River, about 10 or 15 feet below street level. There are steps that lead down to the river or you can gain access to this lovely area by going through one of the major hotels located on the river.

Come to San Antonio, forget the cares of the world. Sip a margarita at an outdoor cafe, people watch along the river, and sample some of the best cheesecake topped with fresh strawberries or blueberries this side of the Mississippi. Waiters and waitresses won't glare at you if you just order coffee or a drink and people watch. San Antonio is an experience you will not want to miss.

Make your plans now to attend the Dixie Convention. Have all of your flowers, fun, and friends, combined into one.



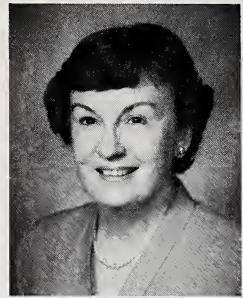
LIME FROST

Third Best New Cultivar - Commercial
1989 Kansas City AVSA Convention
Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses
Paul & Sidney Sorano

photo by Ed Johnson

SHOWS AND JUDGES

*Emilie Savage
39 Mead Drive
Chillicothe, OH 45601*



It is time to turn our thoughts toward the AVSA Convention and Show in Boston, Massachusetts beginning March 19. Our show will be judged on Friday, March 23. If you find that you can attend the show and are a judge in good standing, it is not too late to send in your application to judge. Applications received after February 1 will be filed for possible openings through cancellations or vacancies still remaining.

We receive letters from our members concerning various interpretations of the Judges Handbook and we think it would be helpful if we shared some of these questions and their answers so that all of our judges might benefit.

1. Do judges who have taken and passed the Senior Judges examination for the first time have to take a second test the following year? The Handbook does not specifically state that this is the proper procedure in taking the three tests to obtain a gold card.

It is required that a Senior Judge, who passes the examination for Senior Judge status, take the second examination the following year, followed by the third examination the next year; in other words, the examination must be taken for three consecutive years to receive the gold card.

2. "Dardevil" has given us problems. One show had a plant in the standard class and another one in the semiminiature class. Isn't it the final word that it is a semiminiature? Hasn't the AV Magazine been waffling?

It is easy to understand the frustration about "Dardevil" (or Daredevil). Someone called last week about this same cultivar. The AV Magazine is not be ambivalent about this plant. The responsibility rests with the hybridizer. This cultivar could not be located in any of the official AVSA publications, Master Variety List or Registration List. The only

recourse we have is to ask the hybridizer to reconsider the original designation of a plant and if the hybridizer agrees, the AVSA registrar should be notified by the hybridizer so that a new classification may be given.

3. We had a beautiful show and received the Green Rosette. We were informed that because we had a title of "Queen of the Show" instead of "Best in Show" that points were deducted from the SSA Point Score Sheet. Also, should we not have a place of honor for the best "Standard" plant if a miniature or semiminiature is the best plant in the show?

All of the references in the Judges Handbook to the best African violet plant in a show refer to it as "Best in Show." If you will note the column, "Affiliate 'appenings" by Lyndall Owens, all of the reports concerning affiliate shows refers to the best plant in the show as "Best in Show." We realize that some affiliates refer to their top-scoring African violet as "Queen of the Show." We would prefer that they use the term in the Handbook. The Handbook does not require that affiliates use the term, "Best in Show," but perhaps in the future, it would be wise to use the terms given in the Judges Handbook. Then, there would be no cause for problems with the judging of your show, especially if the judges are going to interpret the Handbook literally in every detail.

With regard to your question concerning the Court of Honor, AVSA does not have any rules for an affiliate to follow in the number of plants included in the Court of Honor. Many affiliates include the Best in Show, the best standard (if a miniature is designated by the judges as Best in Show, etc.), so that all types of violets are included in the court of honor. For example, the best standard, best miniature, best semiminiature, best trailer, best gesneriad, or whatever they wish, according to space available and desires of the affiliate. It is completely

a decision of the affiliate.

4. In a dish garden, can cut tree branches or driftwood be used for height?

A dish garden is one of the types of exhibits in the Container Gardens Section. The general definition for all container gardens, including dish gardens, states that these are miniature scenes in which one or more blooming African violets, along with other plants, are actually planted and growing in the container. Dish gardens are plantings in a shallow, dish-like container. Rule 2, page 68 in the Judges Handbook states that all plants shall be planted in the container and no cut plant material shall be permitted. Driftwood could be used, if it represents a dead tree in the forest or is lying amid the plantings, as is sometimes seen in an actual wooded area, as it would be considered an accessory under these circumstances.

5. If an arrangement is too high or wide for the space allowed in the schedule, points are deducted (p. 67 Handbook - "space"). Yet some judges eliminate it from consideration because it does not conform to the schedule's space limits. (p. 65 #6). Same reasoning applies to a mini over 6" (points are not deducted, the plant is not judged). Please give an answer on these questions.

It is hard to see your point in comparing arrangement which is too high or wide for space allowed and a miniature over 6" or a semiminiature over 8". First, an arrangement is in the Design Division of the show and is judged by a different set of rules from miniatures in the Horticulture Division. Second, since it is stated on page 67 in the Judges Handbook that points are deducted, judges are in error if they eliminate it from consideration. Our handbook specifically states on page 49 that horticulture exhibits may be eliminated from consideration if a class calls for plants not to exceed 6 or 8 inches. If the exhibit does not meet this requirement, it would not be judged.

7. Is a blue ribbon awarded for an unusual container countable for a horticulture blue ribbon?

Since the Unusual Container class is in the Horticulture Division of the show, a blue ribbon earned for an exhibit in this class would be considered a horticulture blue ribbon.

We wish to express our deep regret over the death of Ray Lange, who was the member of the

Show and Judges Committee assigned to approve the teachers' examinations. His patience and kindness were evident in all that he did and his dedication to this job was greatly appreciated. He will be missed. Frances Young has graciously consented to take over this responsibility. Any teacher whose judging school has been approved should send the examination paper with answers to Frances at 6109 Shadow Mountain Dr., Austin, TX 78731.

Corrections to Convention Info

Class 59. "Cranberry Bogs" - Half the nations cranberries come from southern Massachusetts where marshy areas and sandy bogs lend themselves to the production of this small red berry. A design with water showing. Staged in a niche 28" high, 24" wide, 20" deep (side wing is 15" deep). Limited to 6 entries.

Class 65. "Moonlight in Vermont" - Icy finger waves/ski trails down a mountainside / shadows through the trees / snowdrifts shining in the dark / snowlight in Vermont." A design in black and white with accents of silver and gray permitted, using African violet blossoms of any color. Staged in a niche 22" high, 18" wide, 16" deep (side wing is 12" deep). Limited to 6 entries.

Questions were also raised about the space 18" wide allowed for entries in Classes 69 and 70. These exhibits will not be staged in niches. The space given is the amount of space on the table allocated to each exhibitor. We feel that Class 69, "Boston Tea Party" is self-explanatory. The schedule specifically excludes draping and states that the cup and saucer design will be staged against an off-white background. A small fabric, no larger than 12" square may be used under the design.

We hope these corrections and explanations will be of help to the potential exhibitors in explaining what is and what is not permitted. *

REMEMBER:

Awards will be given for the ladies (and the gents) who end up as winners of the "Spring Bonnet Competition" at the Friday evening banquet at the 1990 Boston Convention/Show in March.



DAYDREAMS PAL ANN
DAYDREAMS ROSE MARIE

photos by Jacobucci

hybridized & grown by
Linda Jacobucci



Room Sharing

Boston Convention March 19 - 25, 1990

Room sharing was a very successful at the Kansas City Convention.

Is room sharing for you?

Are you interested in making your expenses less by sharing a room with someone?

We offer this service to anyone interested.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____

\$87.00 plus tax per room for up to four persons.

Non-Smoker _____ Smoker _____

Age _____ Under 25 _____ 26-50 _____ 51 and over

Arrival Date _____

Departure Date _____

Any other considerations:

All requests must be made by February 1, 1990, so we may contact all interested "violet friends" and meet the deadline for hotel reservations.

Send requests to: Ruth E. Warren
 P. O. Box 3664
 Fall River, MA 02722
 508-679-1189

Call for 1990 Open Forum Meeting

The sixth annual Open Forum meeting of the Board of Directors of the African Violet Society of America, Inc., will be held Wednesday, March 21, 1990, at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel & Towers, Boston, Massachusetts, 4:00 p.m.

At this time the Board of Directors of AVSA will welcome any and all AVSA members to come and present any suggestions, ideas, questions, etc., that they may have.

A Timely Reminder

*Anne Tinari, Chairman
Membership & Promotion Chairman*

As we become involved in the seasons festivities and well-meaning New Years resolutions, let us not forget to renew our AVSA membership.

Our African Violet Magazine is one of the finest, most colorful magazines published, devoted to African violets. Each issue features interesting articles on the care and culture of our favorite plant. Columnists afford us the benefit of their knowledge and expertise.

The timely President's letter, Newsline from the Beaumont Office and Jane's Journal by our editor is in every issue. An interesting column on hybridizing is both educational and fascinating. Another popular feature is the enchanting personal visits with our many commercial growers.

Up to date information is reported on the Building Fund, Boyce Edens and the Booster Fund. News and show dates of the affiliates appear in the Affiliate 'appenings column. The latest registration reports are featured. Complete convention show schedules and registration forms appear in a supplement which is beautifully coordinated and can be easily pulled out of the magazine for your convenience. The September/October 16-page supplements lists all of the AVSA Judges in each state and all the affiliated clubs and commercial members.

Ads in the magazine permit you to find accessories needed to grow and groom better plants and outstanding show plants.

We need to sow seeds for a greater enthusiastic membership to enjoy the many benefits of our great society. Can we depend on your help?

Let us resolve to make 1990 a record year for new members.

We thank you for your past support and invite you to renew your membership and help us acquire new members for a record growth year.

Send Your Choices

Rita Hilton

As the new Best Varieties List and Honor Roll compiler, I was thrilled when the box of records from prior years arrived. The rest of the day was spent with my nose in the literature I had received.

Quite often new growers will be told to check the Best Varieties List, Honor Roll or Tally Time to get an idea of what plants they ought to grow. If they take this advice, then the first list which came out in September, 1955, was titled appropriately — "Buyers Guide Report." The next year the name was changed to "Best 100" and listed the best 100 varieties in the eyes of the grower membership. Ten years after its inception, March of 1965, the name was changed to "Best Varieties List" and remains the same today. Pink Cheer topped the 1955 list with 113 votes and made the first Honor Roll five years later. Tommie Lou made the list in 1965 and dominated the top slot 10 out of the next 14 years and placed 2nd, three out of the other four years.

It is now January, 1990, and I know you want to be part of history in the making. Between now and April 1, each of you should take the time to sit down and make a list of 25 of your favorite plants. If you are a new grower, perhaps your list will not be that long. Send it in anyway, we would like to have your opinion as well.

As has been suggested in the past, a good technique for getting each of your affiliate individuals to cast their ballots is to make it a part of your regularly scheduled meeting. Do not send a list of 25 for entire affiliate membership, but send each members list.

If you do decide to make only one list for the club, list all plants voted on by the group and how many votes each received. Also enclose the total number of members voting as well as name of the affiliate.

We thank each of you for your assistance in the past, for helping us to provide this valuable information — particularly for new members it is helpful. Please send your list prior to April 1, 1990. We look forward to hearing from you.

Rita G. Hilton
2295 W. Helen Circle, Bartow, FL 33830

Registration Report

Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway
Hollywood, FL 33019



Reservations are \$1.00 for a two year period, and may be renewed for another two year period. Registration is \$5.00 unless your reservation is still in effect, then the cost is \$4.00.

Tinari - Huntingdon Valley, PA

*Lillian Jarrett - Standard - The description is: Light pink double. Pointed, quilted, serrated leaf. #1060 - 6/9/61 PLEASE NOTE: The original registered description on this cultivar does not state that it has variegated foliage. The variegated Lilian Jarrett is a sport of the original. *Lilian Jarrett Variegated - Standard - Double baby pink. Mosaic variegated, medium green, serrated, pointed foliage. - #2902 - 9/28/89

REGISTRATIONS

Barbara Cook - Falmouth, MA

*Amanda Ruth - Large - Double bright pink. Dark plain foliage. - #7162 - 8/1/89
*Cape Cod Crisscross - Standard - Single ruffled white chimera with vivid red stripe. Dark green plain foliage. - #7136 - 8/1/89
*Jennifer Christine - Standard - Semidouble fringed white with red center. Medium green plain foliage. - #7164 - 8/1/89

Jeanie Bell - N B, Canada

*Billy Bell - Large - Single sticktight medium blue. Dark green, quilted foliage, red reverse. - #7165 - 8/1/89
*Katrina Marie - Standard - Single sticktight pale mauve-white pansy with deeper tips. Dark green quilted foliage, red reverse. - #7166 - 8/1/89

*My Chinook - Standard - Single pink two tone with deeper pink eye. Dark quilted foliage, red reverse. - #7167 - 8/1/89

*Percy Burton Earle - Large - Double mauve blue with deeper purple tips. Dark green quilted foliage, red reverse. - #7168 - 8/1/89

Julia Stahl - Harrisburg, PA

*Milky Way Trail - Semiminiature trailer - Single/semidouble white pansy. Medium green, quilted, heartshaped foliage. - #7169 - 8/1/89

Ralph Robinson - Tonawanda, NY

*Rob's Blue Moon - Semiminiature - Semidouble medium blue star. Medium/dark green, pointed, serrated, quilted foliage, light red reverse. - #7170 - 8/29/89

*Rob's Pal Paul - Miniature - Single white pansy. Variegated, medium green, pointed, strawberry, glossy foliage, white reverse. - #7171 - 8/29/89

*Rob's Pink Satin - Semiminiature - Semidouble light satin pink. Crown variegated, medium green, pointed, serrated, heartshaped foliage. - #7172 - 8/29/89

*Rob's Pinky Winky - Semiminiature - Semidouble deep pink. Crown variegated when young, very dark green, pointed, glossy foliage, red reverse. - #7173 - 8/29/89

*Rob's Silver Spook - Semiminiature - Semidouble light lavender-purple with occasional white mottling. Crown variegated, medium green, pointed foliage. - #7174 - 8/29/89

*Rob's Vanilla Pink - Semiminiature - Semidouble deep creamy rose-pink pansy. Crown

variegated, medium/dark green, pointed, serrated, heartshaped foliage. - #7175 - 8/29/89
***Rob's Whimsical** - Semiminiature - Double white with blue eye. Medium green, pointed, lightly serrated, quilted foliage. - #7176 - 8/29/89

Don & Jean Ness - White Bear Lake, MN

***Ness' Cameo Pink** - Standard - Semidouble ruffled light pink. Medium green quilted, lightly scalloped foliage. - #7177 - 9/5/89

***Ness' Dilly-Dally** - Standard - Semidouble ruffled white pansy with fuchsia edge. Light green quilted, heartshaped foliage. - #7178 - 9/5/89

***Ness' Pink Squirt** - Semiminiature - Double ruffled light pink. Dark green spooned, serrated, glossy foliage, red reverse. - #7179 - 9/5/89

***Ness' Satin Ruffles** - Standard - Semidouble ruffled deep red pansy, often with green edge. Dark green wavy, quilted, scalloped foliage, red reverse. - #7180 - 9/5/89

***Ness' Viking King** - Standard - Semidouble lightly ruffled two tone mauve pansy. Dark green serrated, quilted foliage, red reverse. - #7181 - 9/5/89

***Ness' Viking Maiden** - Standard - Semidouble ruffled white pansy. Medium green wavy, quilted, scalloped foliage. - #7182 - 9/5/89

***Sugar Bear Blues** - Semiminiature - Semidouble/double medium blue. Medium green pointed, plain foliage, red reverse. - #7183 - 9/5/89

***Sugar Bear Pink** - Semiminiature - Semidouble light pink pansy. Medium green quilted, heartshaped foliage, red reverse. - #7184 - 9/5/89

Ardythe Jolliff - Edgewater, MD

***Gemcraft Pink Pearl** - Standard - Double fringed white with pink streaks, green edge. Variegated, medium green, ruffled, glossy foliage. - #7185 - 9/7/89

Elizabeth Cassidy - Loveland, CO

***Crushed Ice** - Standard - Double fringed light blue-lavender two tone, darker outer petals. Medium green, slightly wavy, serrated, quilted

foliage. - #7186 - 9/8/89

***Spring Bouquet** - Standard - Semidouble wavy medium pink. Medium green pointed foliage. - #7187 - 9/8/89

Hortense Pittman - San Antonio, TX

***Little Palette** - Semiminiature - Double rosy pink. Dark green plain, serrated, quilted foliage, red reverse. - #7188 - 9/25/89

***Magic Trail** - Miniature trailer - Double pink two tone with fuchsia tips. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. - #7189 - 9/25/89

***Sundown Trail** - Semiminiature trailer - Double dark blue. Dark green plain foliage, dark green reverse. - #7190 - 9/25/89

***West Trail** - Miniature trailer - Double bright pink. Medium green pointed, plain foliage. - #7191 - 9/25/89

Bob Sanger - Sebring, FL

***Cecile** - Standard - Semidouble slightly fringed mauve two tone. Variegated medium green plain foliage. - #7192 - 9/27/89

REGISTRATION CORRECTIONS

Don & Jean Ness - White Bear Lake, MN

Please add the name Ness' to the following registrations.

#6268 Amy Lackner should be Ness' Amy Lackner

#6269 Andy Boy should be Ness' Andy Boy

#6909 Ballyhoo Blue should be Ness' Ballyhoo Blue

#6910 Blue Babe should be Ness' Blue Babe

#6270 Chatty Kathy should be Ness' Chatty Kathy

#6911 Crimson Kiss should be Ness' Crimson Kiss

#6271 Hey Jude should be Ness' Hey Jude

#6912 Joey's Pal should be Ness' Joey's Pal

#6272 Marla should be Ness' Marla

#6273 Mindy's Dream should be Ness'

Mindy's Dream

#6274 Minnesota Debut should be Ness' Minnesota Debut

#6275 Minnesota Magic should be Ness' Minnesota Magic

#6913 Minnesota Splash should be Ness'

Minnesota Splash

#6914 **Neat Nellie** should be Ness' Neat Nellie
#6915 **Night Life** should be Ness' Night Life
#6916 **Shirley's Delight** should be Ness'
Shirley's Delight
#6276 **Silver Cypress** should be Ness' Silver
Cypress
#6277 **Sister Sue** should be Ness' Sister Sue
#6917 **Snowy Daze** should be Ness' Snowy
Daze
#6278 **Sweet Shirl** should be Ness' Sweet Shirl
#6887 **Little James** - Please change description
to read: Semidouble fringed pink with lavender
shading, geneva edge. Variegated foliage with
light pink, yellow and white, red reverse.
#7087 **Pride of Columbus** - Change description
to read - Double lavender with purple tips.
Tommie Lou variegated plain foliage.
#6630 **Sum Pumpkin** - Please change size from
a miniature to a semiminiature.

NAME RESERVATIONS

Cathy Cornibe - Santa Cruz, CA

*Cathy's Fireworks * Little Flirt * Little Nite
Bloomers * Madame President * Miss Santa
Cruz *

Joen Gehr - Eagle River, WI

* Cinderella Rock * Fine Young Cannibal *
Tiger Musky * Toy Soldier * Ultra Violet *

Don & Jean Ness - White Bear Lake, MN

*Ness' Angel Blush * Ness' Angel Eyes * Ness'
Angel Face * Ness' Angel Kiss * Ness' Blue
Blazer * Ness' Classi Chassi * Ness' Coral Whis-
per * Ness' Disco Belle * Ness' Dixie Breeze *
Ness' Dixieland Daddy * Ness' Double Delight
* Ness' Elfin Magic * Ness' Fancy Freckles *
Ness' Happy Freckles * Ness' Lucky Freckles *
Ness' Gramma's Choice * Ness' Little Dipper *
Ness' Lucky Charms * Ness' Moody Blues *
Ness' Orbit Red * Ness' Plum Pretty * Ness' Red
Express * Ness' Red Flash * Ness' Shady Lady *
Ness' Sno Fun * Ness' Snow Pearl * Ness' Snow
Time *Ness' Sweat Pea *

Bob Sanger - Sebring, FL

*Norma Lena * Cici *

NAME RESERVATION RENEWALS

Cathy Cornibe - Santa Cruz, CA

* Big Al *

Joen Gehr - Eagle River, WI

*Ambiance * Finer Things * French Pastry *
Lady Hawk * Lady In Red * Little Big Shot *
Mandolin Rain * Neutron Star * Pisces * Smidg-
eon * Solar Fire * Spirit North * Starship * Winter
Olympic ♀

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 3 & 4 FLORIDA — The Upper Pinellas AVS show/sale, "Violets - For Any Occasion," Clearwater Mall, 505 U.S. Highway 19th So., Clearwater. Feb. 3, 1 - 9 p.m.; Feb. 4, noon - 4 p.m. Jeanne Schemel, chairman; Leonard Waller, president.

FEBRUARY 3 & 4 FLORIDA — Mid-Polk AVS show/sale, "Hats Off to Violets," Winter Haven Mall, Winter Haven. For more information call Betty Lombardi, show chairman, 813-967-2795 or Vena Griffith, president, 813-956-4671.

FEBRUARY 10 FLORIDA — Treasure Coast AVS of Fort Pierce show/sale, "Hearts and Violets," Garden Center, 911 Parkway. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. There is no admission fee and the public is invited.

FEBRUARY 10 & 11 MICHIGAN — North Oakland AVC annual Valentine's weekend show/sale in the greenhouses at: Bordine's Better Blooms, 1985 South Rochester Rd. (2 miles north of M-59) Rochester. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., both days.

FEBRUARY 10 & 11 FLORIDA — First Lakeland AVS tenth annual show/sale, "Ten Years of Reflections," Lakeland Garden Club, 802 East Orange St., Lakeland. Feb. 10, noon - 8 p.m.; Feb. 11, 12:30 - 5 p.m. Open to the public, free admission. Liz Farnsworth, show chairman, 813-646-4895 and Barbara Courson, cochairman, 813-644-5405.

FEBRUARY 10 & 11 MISSOURI — The AVC of Greater Kansas City presents its 39th annual show/sale, "Violets in the 90s - Now and Then," Loose Park Garden Center, 5200 Pennsylvania, Kansas City, MO. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., both days. Molly Blacketer and Carol Allinson, co-chairmen.

FEBRUARY 16-18 FLORIDA — The Violet Patch of Broward County's show, "Showcase of Violets," Galleria Mall, Ft. Lauderdale, regular mall hours. Linda Marshall, show chairman.

FEBRUARY 17 & 18 CALIFORNIA — South Coast AVS of Redondo Beach show/sale, "Violets at the County Fair," South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd.,

Palos Verdes Peninsula. Feb. 17, noon - 4 p.m.; Feb. 18, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Garden entry fee is: Adults \$3.00, Seniors and Students \$1.50. For further information contact: Ralph Breden, 213-373-5697.

FEBRUARY 17 & 18 LOUISIANA — Rayne AVS tenth annual show/sale, "A Decade of Violets," K. C. Hall, 300 S. Adams Ave. (Highway 90), Rayne. Feb. 17, 2 - 4 p.m.; Feb. 18, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free admission. For additional information contact: Leora Peres, president, P. O. Box 412, Rayne 70578.

MARCH 2 - 4 GEORGIA — The AV Grower's Club's second annual show/sale, "Violets Around The Clock," MarketSquare Mall, Atlanta, during mall hours. Joan Cumpton, show chairman.

MARCH 2 - 4 FLORIDA — AV Association of Gardeners show/sale, "Treasures in Rhyme," Colonial Plaza Mall, E. Colonial Dr., Orlando. Regular mall hours. Alice Davis, show chairman.

MARCH 3 & 4 CALIFORNIA — San Diego Daytime AVS' show/sale, "Violets Las Vegas Style," Balboa Park, Room 101. Mar. 3, 1 - 5 p.m.; Mar. 4, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information contact: Beverly Decker, show chairman, 619-442-7484.

MARCH 3 & 4 LOUISIANA — Baton Rouge AVS show/sale, "Violets in the Gay Nineties," Baton Rouge Garden Center, 7960 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge. Mar. 3, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 4, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Open to the public, free admission. Shirley Gomez, chairman.

MARCH 9 & 10 LOUISIANA — Top Choice AVS 18th annual show/sale, "Violets Along the Red River," Pierremont Mall, 4801 Line Ave., Shreveport. Mar. 9, 2 - 7 p.m.; Mar. 10, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public invited. For more information contact: Mrs. Ruby Parker, show chairman, 6229 Trailwood, Shreveport. 318-636-4711 or 318-742-6220, Ext. 209; or Phyllis King, president, 318-687-0127.

MARCH 9 - 11 GEORGIA — Georgia State African Violet Judges Society show/sale, "St. Patrick's Saintpaulias," Lakeshore Mall, 1285 W. Washington St. NW, Gainesville. Open to the public. Mar. 9 & 10, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Mar. 11, 1 - 6 p.m. For further information contact: Ellie Jordan, show chairman, 404-245-8487.

MARCH 10 & 11 KANSAS — Wichita AV Study Club show/sale, "Violets for the 90s," Botanica, 701 Amidon, Wichita. Mar. 10, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Mar. 11, 1 - 4 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Lucy Fry, president; Donna Brun, 6913 Newberry Circle, Wichita 67226, show chairman.

MARCH 10 & 11 ARIZONA — Tucson AVS show/sale, "Precious Moments," center court of Park Mall Shopping Center, 5870 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson. Mar. 10, noon - 6 p.m.; Mar. 11, noon - 5 p.m. Free admission. Carolyn Anderson, chairman.

MARCH 10 & 11 CALIFORNIA — San Mateo County AVS show/sale, Howard Johnson Hotel, Redwood Room, 485 Veterans Blvd., Redwood City. Mar. 10, 2 - 7 p.m.; Mar. 11, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission.

MARCH 10 & 11 LOUISIANA — Atchafalaya VS of Ameria's 15th annual show/sale, "Violets Tour Tinsel Town," Municipal Auditorium, Morgan City. Mar. 10, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 11, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. Martha Dyson, president; George Ramirez, show chairman.

MARCH 15 - 18 ILLINOIS — Glenview/North Shore AVS will be selling plants and supplies at the Chicagoland

Home and Flower Show, at the O'Hare Expo Center, Rosemont. Parking, \$5.00. Mar. 15 - 17, 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Mar. 18, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

MARCH 16 & 17 NEW JERSEY — Union County Chapter's 36th annual show/sale, "Around The World," All Saints Episcopal Church, 599 Park Ave., Scotch Plains. Mar. 16, 6 - 9 p.m.; Mar. 17, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. Gail Gray, show chairman, 201-537-4199.

MARCH 16 - 18 TENNESSEE — Memphis AVS show/sale, "Violets in Victorian Elegance," Goldsmith Civic Garden Center. Open to the public, Mar. 16, 1 - 4:30 p.m.; Mar. 17, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Mar. 18, 1 - 4:30 p.m. Show chairman, Barbara Poole. Peggy Adamson, president.

MARCH 16 - 18 TEXAS — Fort Worth AVS 27th annual show/sale, "Violets on the Emerald Isle," Fort Worth Botanical Garden Center, open to the public: Mar. 17, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Mar. 18, 1 - 4 p.m. Mrs. Virginia Linson, president; Mrs. Myrtle Chilcutt, show chairman.

MARCH 16 - 18 FLORIDA — Suncoast AVS show/sale, "Love is a Violet," Gateway Mall, 78th Ave. & 9th St. North, St. Petersburg. Regular mall hours. For more information contact: Sheryl Minor, 7991 64th St. No., Pinellas Park 34665, 544-2604 or Sandra Williams, 102 9th St. East, Tierra Verde 33715, 864-2598.

MARCH 17 & 18 NEW YORK — Sweet Water AVS show/sale, "Dining Out with Violets," West Sayville Fire Dept., Montauk Highway, Sayville. Mar. 17, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 18, noon - 5 p.m. For information: Carolyn Klein, show chairman, 718-441-5128.

MARCH 17 & 18 CALIFORNIA — San Fernando Valley AVS show/sale, "Violets Go Irish," Panorama Mall, Roscoe & Van Nuys boulevards, Panorama City. Mar. 17, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Mar. 18, noon - 5 p.m. Free admission. For more information call Mary Blancher, 818-363-6222.

MARCH 17 & 18 FLORIDA — AVS of Pensacola show/sale, "Violets over Pensacola," BayView Community Center, 19th Ave. and Lloyd Street. Mar. 17, 2 - 8 p.m.; Mar. 18, noon - 8 p.m. George Starr, show chairman (904) 456-2662.

MARCH 23 - 25 ILLINOIS — African Violet Fanciers, Inc. of Rockford will present their 7th annual show/sale, "African Violet Geometrics," North Towne Shopping Mall, 3600 North Main at Riverside. 1 - 9 p.m. Terry Recoy, show chairman.

MARCH 24 & 25 MICHIGAN — North Oakland AVC show/sale, Laurel Park Place, Newburgh & Six Mile roads (at I-275), Livonia. Dates and times are tentative. Call 313-462-1100 for confirmation.

MARCH 29 - 31 TEXAS — Alpha AVS show/sale, Big Town Mall, Interstaste Highway 20 & Big Town Blvd., Mesquite. Sale will begin Mar. 29, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. daily. Show will begin Mar. 30, noon - 9 p.m. and Mar. 31, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Public is invited. Plenty of free parking. For more information call: Mrs. Grace Davis, 214-278-0389.

MARCH 30 & 31 NEW JERSEY — Bergen County AVS show/sale, "Reach For The Stars," Old North Reformed Church, Washington & Madison avenues, Dumont. Mar. 30, 3 - 9 p.m.; Mar. 31, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Everyone invited, free admission. Florence Friedman & Fred Hill, cochairman. For information: 201-568-9736.

MARCH 30 - APRIL 1 TENNESSEE — Bluff City AVC show/sale, "Violets at the Olde Country Store," Park Place

Mall, Park and Ridgeway, Memphis. Mar. 30, 1 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 31, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Apr. 1, 1 - 5 p.m. Olivette Yancey, show chairman.

APRIL 4 - 6 TEXAS — First of Dallas AVS show/sale, Richardson Square Mall, Plano Road & Beltline, Richardson. Sale begins Apr. 4, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. daily; show begins Apr. 5, noon - 9 p.m.; show & sale, Apr. 6, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Public is invited. Plenty of free parking. For more information call Grace Davis, 214-278-0389.

APRIL 6 & 7 TEXAS — First AVS of Denton show, "African Violets Visit the British Isles," First Presbyterian Church, Erwin Hall, 1114 W. University, Denton. Apr. 6, 1:30 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 7, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Eunice Curry, show chairman, 617 Mimosa Dr., Denton 76201; 817-382-6465.

APRIL 7 & 8 ILLINOIS — Glenview/North Shore AVS sale, Botanic Garden Horti Court show, off Lake Cook Road and Edens Expwy. \$2.00 parking/non member. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

APRIL 7 & 8 NEW YORK — Capital District VS & AVS of Albany show/sale, Knights of Columbus Hall, 375 Ontario St., Albany. Apr. 7, 2:30 - 7 p.m.; Apr. 8, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Public invited. Ed Perras & Dorothy Raymond, co-chairmen. For more information call 518-237-0570.

APRIL 20 & 21 VIRGINIA — Richmond AVS show, "A World of Beauty," Azalea Mall, Richmond (from I-95 North: take Exit 15 (Hermitage Rd./Lakeside Ave.), go left at stop sign on Westbrook Ave. Mall on left. From I-95 South: exit Rt. 301 S. Chamberlayne Ave., go right on Azalea Ave. and left on Brook Rd. Mall on right. Apr. 20, 2 - 9 p.m.; Apr. 21, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Sharon Long, show

chairman, 804-740-5322; for more information contact Liz Eakes, 8924 Hawkhill Rd., Richmond 23237, 804-275-1847.

APRIL 20 & 21 NEW JERSEY — AVS of North Jersey show, "Violets Go To School," St. John's Lutheran Church, 810 Broad St., Clifton. Becky Johnson, show chairman; Emilia Rykowski, asst. show chairman.

APRIL 20 - 22 WISCONSIN — Milwaukee AVS show/sale, "A House Full of Violets," in the Southridge Mall, So. 76th St. and W. Edgerton, Greenfield. Mall hours. Public invited, free admission. Dorothy Fossum, show chairman; Joan Wilson, cochairman.

APRIL 21 & 22 ARKANSAS — Green Thump AVS 29th annual show/sale, "Around the World With Violets," Park Inn, Fayetteville (intersection Hwy. 71 bypass & Hwy. 62 West). Apr. 21, 1 - 6 p.m. (sales room opens at noon); Apr. 22, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Educational demonstration: "Propagation: From Leaf to Mature Plant"; Apr. 21, 3 - 4 p.m., Apr. 22, 2 - 3 p.m. For more information: Ginger Honomichl, 501-444-7636 or 501-575-4055.

APRIL 28 - MAY 6 CANADA — The Edmonton AVS show, "Victorian Violets," Muttart Conservatory, Edmonton. For further information please contact show chairman, Lynnette Mitchell, 12911-82 St., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5E 2T3. Phone: 403-475-7055.

APRIL 28 & 29 PENNSYLVANIA — AVS of Lower Bucks County's 16th annual show, "Come Say G-Day," Oxford Valley Mall, Wanamaker's Court, Langhorne. Apr. 28, 1 - 9 p.m.; Apr. 29, noon - 5 p.m. Free admission. Betty and Jack Callahan, show chairmen. ♀

Affiliate 'appenings

Lyndall Owens
P. O. Box 288
Beaumont, TX 77704



LOUISIANA COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES & GROWERS — "Violets Along the Bayou." Anaise LeBlanc, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Mary Craig, Optimara Trinidad, Elizabeth*, best gesneriad, *Petrocosmen Nunosa*, sweepstakes, *Denise Lindsly*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Kiss of Fire, Wrangler's Snowfields, You Old Smoothie, George Ramirez*; best in show, *Pensi Beauty, Al & Genelle Armstrong*; 2nd best in show, *Precious Pink*, best semi, *Precious Pink, Leora Peres*; best design, "Christ Episcopal Church, Alice Ramirez"; best trailer, *Rob's Sticky Wicket, Kathy Oufnac*; best miniature, *Midnight Elf, Penny Brenner*.

AVS OF DENVER, CHAPTER I, CO — "A Violet Fantasy," Ann K. Klaas, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Optimara Alabama, Happiness, Marshlands*, 2nd best in show, *Optimara Alabama, Ella Kiesling*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Optimara Rose Quartz, Optimara Little Diamond, Optimara Little Opal*, best in show, *Cirelda*; best semi, *Denny Boo*, sweepstakes, *Judie Lalanne*; best miniature, *Everdina, Nelly Levine*.

TARA AVC, GA — "A Harvest of Violets," Betty Phillips, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Winnegreen, Beginner's Luck, Snuggles Delight*, best in show, *Blackie Bryant*, best miniature, *Mickey Mouse*, best semi, *Sweet One*, best trailer, *Pixie Blue Trail*, best gesneriad, *E. Unpredictable Valley, Bernice McGee*; best dish garden, *Kay Peters*; best standard, *Making Romance*, best variegated, *First Dallas*, most unusual container, *Betty Phillips*.

THE EARLY BIRD VIOLET CLUB, AL — "Violets in Concert," Elizabeth K. Hayes, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Swamp Fever, Makin' Romance, Brush Strokes*, best design, best trailer, *Pixie Blue*, best semi, *Little Katherine*, sweepstakes, *Elizabeth Hayes*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Blackie Bryant, Granger's Hearts Desire, Variegated Peak of Pink*, best in show, *Tommie Lou*, 2nd best in show, *Pretty In Blue, Michael Jackson*; best miniature, *Alyssa, Brenda Posey*; best gesneriad, *Episcia Shimmer, Sammie Bolton*.

PASADENA AVS, TX — "Violets in Art," Melba Bradberry, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Tiger*,

Alpha Spring, Marie Knoblock, Melba Bradbery; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Grandma's Zach*, Magnolia, Apache Ridge, John Gonzales; best in show, *Apache Maiden*, James Bradbery; best design, "Pastels," best gesneriad, *Episcia Kee Wee*, Pat Gonzales; best trailer, *Honeysuckle Rose*, sweepstakes, Marsha Bagley; best miniature, *Snuggle Bear*, Kathy Foust.

OHIO STATE AVS — "Rhyming With Violets," Marilyn L. Shields, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Angel Fare*, *Love Spots*, *Painted Sunrise*, best in show, *Mignons Moment*, 2nd best in show, *Back-In-Time*, best trailer, *Darling Blue Trail*, Anne Thomas; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Wonderland*, *Radiation*, *Happy Cricket*, best design, "Little Boy Blue," Cathy Black; best miniature, *Mickey Mouse*, best semi, *Little Katherine*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Bold Venture*, sweepstakes, Diane Eakin.

L'ASSOCIATION DES AMATEURS DE VIOLETTES AFRICAINES DE MONTREAL, CANADA — "Grandioses Violettes Africaines," Normand Miron, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Suncoast Candy Stripe*, *Snow Squall*, *Picasso-T*, best in show, *Decelles Papillon*, 2nd best in show, *Flash Fire*, Therese Decelles; 2nd best AVSA collection, *ACA's Merry Mary*, *Snuggles*, *Beginner's Luck*, Yvon Decelles; best design, "Jardin de Metis, best gesneriad, *Sinningia Cardinalis*, Anne Herbatuk; best trailer, *Rose Dream*, Andre Sauaria; best miniature, *Sprite-ly*, best semi, *Hug-a-Lug*, Micheline Frechette.

AV COUNCIL OF SOUTH CALIFORNIA — "African Violets 101 - A Learning Experience," Bernadine J. Poulsen, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Fredette's Moonflower*, *Boca Grande*, *Something Special*, best in show, *Fredette's Moonflower*, 2nd best in show, *Marvel*, Cecilia Gonoud; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Prince of Dixie*, *Blackie Bryant*, *City of Angels*, Marilee Beam; best design, Hilda Douglas; best trailer, *Cherokee Trail*, best gesneriad, *Nematanthus Ridicans*, Hans Inpijn; best miniature, *Everdina*, best semi, *Precious Pink*, Donna Silletto; sweepstakes (15 blue ribbons), Iris Keating.

SOUTHERN AFRICA AVS, Muldersdrift, South Africa — "Nursery Rhymes." Winners: Best miniature, *Snowy Trails*, Lukas Otto; best trailer, George Honeyball; best gesneriad, *Dauphin Violet*, Maria Stanley; best artistic design, "Little Miss Muffet," best novice, Marge Jansen; best in junior division, Sanet V. Loggerenberg (6 yrs. old), 2nd best in junior division, Annelize Otto (3 yrs. old), 3rd best in junior division, Jo-Anne Picton (13 yrs. old). Best of show, *Moonflower*, Petro Loggerenberg.

AV STUDY CLUB OF HOUSTON, TX — "African Violets Visit the Library," Mae Dennison, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Joelle*, *Flying Proud*, Melissa Anne, 2nd best in show, *Joelle*, best trailer, *Santa Fe Trail*, best gesneriad, *A. obconscus parviflorus variegata*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Gerri Goins; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Painted Sunrise*, *Silver Cypress*, Omaha, best in show, Janice Ann, Trish Wright; best design, "Murder Mystery - Murder in the Rue Morgue," Mae Dennison; best miniature, *Pretty Girl*, best semi, *Wee Be*, Betty Moss; sweepstakes (design), Jane Rexilius.

WISCONSIN COUNCIL OF AV CLUBS — "Violet Fantasy," Irene P. Merrell, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Ballet Lisa*, Nortex's Friendship Haven, Optimara New Mexico, best in show, *Juliana*, 2nd best in show, Nortex's Friendship Haven, Bonnie Hennel; best design,

"Woodland Fantasy," Terri Torbeck; best trailer, *Skydiver*, best semi, *Wee Be*, Karter Wilkening; best miniature, *Timid Teen*, sweepstakes, Kathleen Dodge; best gesneriad, *Xanthimanantha Dutch Treat*, Marcia Belisle.

BLUFF CITY AVC, TN — "Fall Show," Ann Smith, chairman. Winners: Best in show, *Lela Marie*, 2nd best in show, *Baby Brian*, best semi, *Snuggles*, best trailer, *Baby Brian*, sweepstakes, Mary Loewer; best miniature, *Petite Jewel*, Katherine Steele; best gesneriad, *Strep. Suzy Q*, Mae Phillips.

MAGIC CITY AVS, AL — "Fall Violets - A Harvest of Color," Kay Rice, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Nortex's Hallmark Haven*, *Richelieu*, *Fantasy Fashion*, best in show, *Hello Sunshine*, best trailer, *Snowy Trail*, best miniature, *Crystal*, best semi, *Snowy Trail*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Silver Skies*, sweepstakes, Kay Rice; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Kingwood Red*, Edna Fischer, *Love Notes*, Katie Self; 2nd best in show, *Pink 'n Inky*, Vivian Lockhart; best design, Betty Conger.

MEMPHIS AVS, TN — "Violets Go Country," Myra Measells, chairman. Winners: Best in show, *Brazos Trail*, 2nd best in show, *Toy Castle*, best trailer, *Brazos Trail*, best miniature, *Toy Castle*, Katherine Steele; best gesneriad, *Strawberry Sunday*, best arrangement, Iona Pair; sweepstakes (horticulture) and sweepstakes (show), Chesley Poole; design sweepstakes, Peggy Adamson.

HAPPINESS IS AV CLUB, CO — "Jungle Violets," Millissa Culver, chairman. Winners: Best in show, best trailer, *Cirelda*, best semi, 2nd best in show, *Snuggles Delight*, best gesneriad, *Strawberry Fields*, Eileen Nelson; best single or semidouble, *Phantom Flash*, Doris Acree; best variegated, Anna Kreeck, Betty Margetts; best club plant, *Teeny Bopper*, Gretha Vermuellen; best design, "Exploring New Places," Millissa Culver.

MISSOURI VALLEY AV COUNCIL — "A Violet Celebration," Linda Golubski, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *The King*, Bertha, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, 2nd best in show, *The King*, Linda McGaha; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Majestic*, *Pathfinder*, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, best in show, *Majestic*, sweepstakes, Kent Stork; best trailer, Rob's Sticky Wicket, best miniature, Rob's Soliloquy, Ardath Miller; best semi, *Lipstick and Lace*, Jim Britton; best gesneriad, *Episcia Checkerboard*, Sue Hill; best design, "Celebrating Our African Origins," design sweepstakes, Jeanne Cotton. ☺

MARCH WEATHER

*March is outside the door
Flaming some old desire
As man turns uneasily from his fire.
David McCord "The Crown"*

In Boston

Average Temperature: 45 high - 31.8 low
In 1988: 47.5 high - 30.8 low
Average rainfall - 4.13 inches
In 1988: 3.52 inches
Average snowfall: 7.6 inches
In 1988: 5 inches

The warmest March day in Massachusetts history was March 30, 1977 when the mercury in Boston soared to a balmy 81 degrees.

Only in New England.

The 1989 Master List of African Violets

Compiled by Lynn Lombard, Master Variety List Chairman

Supplement to African Violet Magazine Volume 43 Number 1 January/February 1990

*One Asterisk designates registered varieties.

**Two Asterisks designate a change.

Descriptions are submitted by the hybridizer.

A

*ACADIAN ODYSSEY #7106 5/15/89 (Domiano)

Double purple slightly ruffled star with midnight blue edge. Black/green, pink variegated, pointed, plain, glossy foliage with red reverse. Large

ADAM CHRISTOPHER See MARIE'S ADAM CHRISTOPHER

ALABAMA II See OPTIMARA® - ALABAMA II

ALAN LEE See MARIE'S ALAN LEE

ALASKA See OPTIMARA® - ALASKA

*ALEW'S PINKA-ROO #6885 6/11/88 (Fageley)

Semidouble light pink. Medium green heart-shaped foliage with reverse. Standard

*ALIANE #6054 9/23/85 (Campbell) Semidouble

blush white w/occasional copper tips on petal back at bud stage. Medium green plain foliage. Semiminiature

ALICE See RHAPSODIE® - ALICE

**ALICE ANN #4656 12/5/81 (Maas) Double ruffled dark orchid w/darker eye. Plain quilted foliage. Standard

*ALINOR #6904 8/31/88 (Campbell) Single white. Tailored foliage. Semiminiature

**ALMOST PARADISE #6282 6/30/86 (Domiano)

Double ruffled dark blue two tone usually with a fine white edge. Dark green, plain, glossy foliage. Large

ALPINE VALLEY (Fredette) Medium blue semidoubles, some green ruffled edges. Ruffled cream, pink, and green variegated foliage. Standard

*AMANDA RUTH #7162 8/1/89 (Cook) Double bright pink. Dark plain foliage. Large

*AMY'S PINK DELIGHT #7013 12/12/88 (Watts)

Single rosy pink pansy with purple cast. Medium green, cupped, pointed, quilted, glossy foliage with red reverse. Standard

**ANAISE #7107 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double ruffled cool pink two tone pansy with darker eye and streaks. Black/green serrated foliage. Large

ANGELICA See RHAPSODIE® - ANGELICA

ANNIE See RHAPSODIE® - ANNIE

*ANNIE'S SONG #7016 12/17/88 (Gross) Double white with deep purple edge, may be more purple than white at times. Medium green, pointed, serrated, quilted foliage. Standard

*ANTICIPATION #71085/15/89 (Domiano) Single medium pink ruffled pansy two tone with darker eye. Dark green, serrated, glossy, variegated foli-

age. Large

APACHE BEAUTY (J. C. Munk) Fringed pink semi-double, darker pink upper petals. Green, white and pink variegated, lightly serrated, quilted foliage with pink edge. Standard

APACHE DANCER (J. C. Munk) Fringed steel blue semidouble with deeper veining. Green, white and pink variegated, ruffled foliage. Standard

APACHE FACE (J. C. Munk) Fringed white single with vibrant pink band. Green and white-edged variegated, glossy foliage. Standard

APACHE GLORY (J. C. Munk) Fringed violet semi-double with white shading from back of petal. Green and white edged serrated, variegated foliage. Standard

APACHE PEACE (J. C. Munk) Lavender to lilac semidouble, white edge. Dark green, white and pink variegated, lightly ruffled foliage. Large

*APACHE RIDGE #7100 4/8/89 (J. C. Munk) Double royal blue with green edges. Dark green and white mosaic variegated plain foliage. Large

APACHE SECRET (J. C. Munk) Large ruffled white semidouble, green fringed edge. May blush pink. Medium green tailored foliage. Standard

*APACHE SPIRIT #7101 4/8/89 (J. C. Munk) Double pink with darker edges. Medium green and white mosaic variegated plain foliage. Large

APACHE SPRING (J. C. Munk) Ivory white semidouble, wide, wavy green edges. Green, white and pink variegated foliage. Standard

APACHE SUMMER (J. C. Munk) Frilled pink semi-double pansy. Dark green, white and pink variegated, glossy foliage. Standard

APACHE TREASURE (J. C. Munk) Heavily fringed bright pink two-tone semidouble with deeper fuchsia eye. Green and pink variegated, glossy, slightly ruffled foliage. Standard

APOCALYPSE (Swift) Light pink with rose tips on some petals. Dark green, red reverse foliage. Standard

AQUARIUS See OPTIMARA® - AQUARIUS

ARTFUL DODGER See ROB'S ARTFUL DODGER

ATLANTA II See OPTIMARA® - ATLANTA II

**AUBERGINE #7109 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double fuchsia pansy shape two tone, darker tips. Dark, plain foliage, red reverse. Large

AUGUST GLOW (Swift) Large light pink double. Dark green, red reverse foliage. Standard

*AUNTIE EM #7017 12/17/88 (Gross) Double ruffled light lavender. Medium green, pointed, quilted foliage. Standard

AUTUMN HALO (Boone) Dusky rose to plum/maroon two-tone semidouble, occasional thin

- white edge. Medium green and cream variegated, pointed, tailored foliage. Large
- AUTUMN LACE** (Sorano) Pink semidouble to double, white edge. Green and white variegated foliage. Standard
- ***AVVENTURE** #6921 10/4/88 (Tremblay) Double star dark pink, blue fantasy spots. Very dark green, plain foliage, red reverse when mature. Large
- B**
- BALLYHOO BLUE** See NESS' BALLYHOO BLUE
- BARBARA** See RHAPSODIE® - BARBARA
- ***BAYOU SECRET** #7110 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double lavender star with darker tones and occasional white edge. Medium green, variegated, pointed, plain, glossy foliage. Large
- BE GOOD** See MAGGIE'S BE GOOD
- BEAUTIFUL DREAMER** See ROY'S BEAUTIFUL DREAMER
- BEAUTY** See APACHE BEAUTY
- ***BELIZAIRE** #7111 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double purple star two tone with darker webbing. Dark green, serrated, glossy variegated with pink and cream. Large
- ***BERTIE'S KID** #7104 4/27/89 (Jackson) Double medium blue bells, pink fantasy. Dark green, pointed, plain foliage. Miniature
- BETHESDA** See FREDETTE'S BETHESDA
- ****BIENVENU** #7112 5/15/89 (Domiano) Semidouble ruffled light pink pansy two tone. Dark green, ruffled, glossy foliage, pink reverse. Large
- BIG DADDY** (Sorano) Very large purple semi-double star. Medium green foliage. Standard
- BIG TIZZY** (Sorano) Pink semidouble star splashed with blue fantasy markings and edged in white. Medium green and white ruffled variegated foliage. Standard
- ***BILLY BELL** #7165 8/1/89 (Bell) Single sticktight medium blue. Dark green, quilted foliage, red reverse. Large
- BIMINI CELEBRATION** (Williams) Large ruffled bright pink semidouble star, coral overlay. Dark foliage. Standard
- BIMINI DAWN** (Williams) Fluted deep coral pink semidouble star, sparkling red-pink overlay. Red reverse foliage. Standard
- BIMINI ICE** (Williams) Ruffled white full double pansy. Bright green ruffled foliage. Standard
- BIMINI LIME** (Williams) Ruffled white double pansy, green edge. Bright green ruffled foliage. Standard
- BLUE BABE** See NESS' BLUE BABE
- ***BLUE HERON** #7025 11/29/88 (Tinari) Double deep sapphire blue. Dark forest green, slightly quilted, pointed, serrated foliage. Standard
- BLUE MOON** See ROB'S BLUE MOON
- ***BLUE SILVERADO** #7041 1/17/89 (Eyerdom) Semidouble wavy medium blue pansy, white edge. Medium green, wavy, ruffled, glossy foliage, red reverse. Standard
- BLUE SQUIRT** See NESS' BLUE SQUIRT
- BLUEBERRY MINT** (Sorano) Dark blue ruffled double, edged in green and white. Medium green ruffled foliage. Standard
- BOBBY** See LOLLY'S BOBBY
- BRANDON SHANE** See MARIE'S BRANDON SHANE
- BRIDAL LACE** (Fredette) Pink and white ruffled doubles, green fringed edges. Ruffled foliage. Standard
- C**
- ***CAJUN HERITAGE** #7113 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double wavy light pink pansy with deeper pink upper tips. Dark green, mosaic variegated, pointed, glossy foliage. Large
- ***CAJUN POPCORN** #7114 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double cool pink ruffled pansy with fuchsia eye. Dark green, Tommie Lou variegated, pointed, glossy foliage. Large
- CALIFORNIA** See OPTIMARA®-CALIFORNIA
- CALYPSO GAL** See NESS' CALYPSO GAL
- CAMEO** See PATT'S CAMEO
- CAMEO PINK** See NESS' CAMEO PINK
- ***CANDYTUFT SURPRISE** #70561/18/89 (Bryant) Single/semidouble pink chimera w/white center stripe. Variegated dark green, serrated, quilted, glossy, heart-shaped foliage. Large
- ***CAPE COD CRISSCROSS** #7136 8/1/89 (Cook) Single ruffled white chimera with vivid red stripe. Dark green plain foliage. Standard
- ***CAPTREE** #701812/17/88 (Gross) Double purple, some green on younger petals. Medium green, serrated, plain foliage. Standard
- ***CARELESS WHISPER** #7140 5/26/89 (Muster) Double wavy pink with purple-lavender overlay. Dark green, pointed, quilted, glossy foliage, red reverse. Standard
- CAROLYN** See RHAPSODIE® - CAROLYN
- ****CATHERINE HUNT** #4658 12/5/81 (Maas) Single light blue. Plain quilted foliage. Large
- ***CECILE** #7192 9/27/89 (Sanger) Semidouble slightly fringed mauve two tone. Variegated medium green plain foliage. Standard
- ****CEGEE'S BEAUTIFUL JO** #5578 10/25/83 (Nadeau) Lavender two tone double. Dark quilted tailored. Large
- CELEBRATION** See BIMINI CELEBRATION
- CHELSEA ANNE** See MARIE'S CHELSEA ANNE
- CHELSEA LOVE** See SHERYL'S CHELSEA LOVE
- ***CHIFFON MASQUERADE** #6928 10/31/88 (Hill) Double lavender two tone. Medium green and white variegated, quilted foliage. Large
- ***CHIFFON PAGEANT** #6929 10/31/88 (Hill) Single slightly ruffled medium pink. Dark green and pink variegated, quilted foliage. Standard
- ***CHIFFON PRINCE** #6930 10/31/88 (Hill) Single slightly ruffled lavender two tone. Dark olive green and tan variegated, quilted, glossy foliage. Large
- ****CHINESE PORCELAIN** #4657 12/5/81 (Lepard) Semidouble white star. Blossoms may be variable. May lack tufts and may occasionally have pink blush in the eye. Plain quilted foliage. Large

- CHOICE** See **ZACA'S CHOICE**
- CHRIS** See **MAAS' CHRIS**
- ***CHRISTINE** #7057 1/18/89 (Bryant) Semidouble/ double ruffled medium pink two tone, dark pink eye, white to green geneva edge pansy. Dark green, pink and white variegated, wavy, serrated. Large
- CINNAMON GIRL** (Sorano) Large rusty red single to semidouble star, white edge. Medium green and white wavy variegated foliage. Standard
- CLAUDETTE** (Fredette) Ruffled fringed white doubles, light blue marbling and rays. Scalloped variegated foliage. Standard
- COBAL HALO** (Boone) Vibrant blue semidouble. Dark green, pink and white variegated, tailored foliage. Large
- COLORADO** See **OPTIMARA®-COLORADO**
- COLORADO II** See **OPTIMARA® - COLORADO II**
- ***COMETE BLEUE** #6922 10/4/88 (Tremblay) Double light blue, heavy bloomer. Plain yellow and green variegated foliage. Large
- COPPER CAT** See **ROB'S COPPER CAT**
- CORAL MOUNTAIN** (Sorano) Vivid coral semidouble to double star. Dark green foliage. Large
- ***COUNSELLOR** #6889 7/9/88 (Jarzab) Semidouble two tone light purple with darker lower lobes and light orchid back. Dark green plain, hairy foliage with lighter green reverse. Standard
- ****COUNTRY LASS** #6350 8/28/86 (Sorano) Semidouble lavender star w/dark tips. Tailored foliage. Large
- ***COUNTRY SUNSET** #7098 4/8/89 (L. Munk) Semidouble fringed deep fuchsia with geneva edge. Medium green plain foliage. Large
- COVENANT CLASS** (Blandsit) White and pink semidouble star. Standard
- CRIMSON KISS** See **NESS' CRIMSON KISS**
- ***CRIMSON VELVET** #6891 7/11/88 (L. Munk) Single fringed fuchsia pansy. Dark green plain foliage with red reverse. Large
- ***CROSS PATCH** #7115 5/15/89 (Domiano) Semidouble ruffled white with random pink/fuchsia markings and some green edging. Dark green, Tommie Lou variegated, wavy, glossy foliage. Large
- ***CRUSHED ICE** #7186 9/8/89 (Cassidy) Double fringed light blue-lavender two tone, darker outer petals. Medium green, slightly wavy, serrated, quilted foliage. Standard
- ***CUTIE** #7141 6/6/89 (Lalanne) Semidouble wisteria blue star. Dark green, cupped, pointed, glossy, red reverse. Miniature
- D**
- DALLAS** See **OPTIMARA® - DALLAS**
- DANCER** See **APACHE DANCER**
- ***DANCING CLOUDS** #7078 2/10/89 (Pittman) Double medium blue. Dark green, wavy, quilted foliage. Standard
- DANCING HALO** (Boone) Frilled deep fuchsia/red full double. Green and cream variegated, slightly wavy foliage. Standard
- DARRELL JAMES** See **MARIE'S DARRELL JAMES**
- DAWN** See **BIMINI DAWN**
- ***DAYBREAK BLUE** #7067 2/6/89 (Stork) Semidouble light blue star fading to almost white at the edges. Dark green, quilted foliage, red reverse. Large
- ***DEANO** #7079 2/10/89 (Pittman) Semidouble wine/purple. Medium green plain foliage. Semiminiature
- ***DEBBIE'S DELIGHT** #6925 10/31/88 (Steinman) Semidouble pink two tone, darker eye. Medium green, plain foliage, red reverse. Miniature
- DEBRA ANN** See **MARIE'S DEBRA ANN**
- DECENNIE** See **OPTIMARA® - DECENNIE**
- ****DEE DEE** #2900 12/5/79 (Tinari) Semidouble to full double bright pink two tone. Plain flexible foliage. Standard
- ***DEEJAY'S PINK SWIRL** #7014 12/12/88 (Watts) Single light pink pansy with purple fantasy. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage with red reverse. Standard
- ***DEEJAY'S SLASHED WONDER** #7015 12/12/88 (Watts) Single bright pink, darker eye pansy with purple fantasy. Medium green, plain foliage. Standard
- DELaware** See **OPTIMARA® - DELaware**
- ***DELICIOUS** #7116 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double wavy light pink. Dark green, wavy, serrated, glossy, variegated foliage. Large
- DELIGHT** See **DEBBIE'S DELIGHT**
- DELIGHT** See **NESS' SHIRLEY'S DELIGHT**
- DELIGHT** See **ROMA'S DELIGHT**
- DENIM HALO** (Boone) Denim blue semidouble. Dark green, mauve and white variegated, tailored foliage. Large
- ***DIAMOND EYES** #6926 10/31/88 (Steinman) Single lavender chimera with darker lavender stripe in center of petal. Medium green, plain foliage, red reverse. Semiminiature
- DILLY-DALLY** See **NESS' DILLY-DALLY**
- DOLLY** See **RHAPSODIE® - DOLLY**
- ***DON'S DELIGHT** #6945 11/10/88 (Wilson) Single/semidouble ruffled pansy shaped grape two tone. Green black, quilted, ovate, scalloped edges, glossy foliage, red reverse. Large
- ***DREAM MAKER** #7117 5/15/89 (Domiano) Single purple and white variable ruffled pansy. Medium green, variegated, wavy, serrated, glossy foliage. Large
- E**
- EASTER JOY** See **FREDETTE'S EASTER JOY**
- ***EASY LOVE** #7118 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double two tone mauve pansy. Dark green, plain, glossy foliage. Large
- ***ELIZABETH** #7058 1/18/89 (Bryant) Double ruffled light pink two tone star edged with raspberry glitter. Dark green, Tommie Lou variegated, quilted, glossy, heart-shaped, scalloped foliage. Standard
- EMBER GLOW** See **ROB'S EMBER GLOW**
- ***EMIKO** #7042 1/17/89 (Eyerdom) Single bright

pink chimera star, white center stripe, occasional white edge. Light green, pointed, plain, glossy foliage. Standard

*EMILY PLASSE #7012 12/16/88 (Starr) Double pink with fuchsia overcast, white edge with hint of green. Plain, quilted foliage. Standard

*EVANGELINE #7119 5/15/89 (Domiano) Semidouble peppermint pink two tone stars. Dark green, variegated with pink, pointed, glossy foliage. Large

F

FACE See APACHE FACE

*FAIR BELLE #6918 9/26/88 (Cox) Single lavender star two tone fantasy bell. Medium green, plain glossy foliage. Semiminiature

*FANTAISIE FLORALE #7037 1/9/89 (Croteau) Semidouble/double medium pink fantasy star splashed with medium blue. Medium green, serrated, quilted foliage with reddish reverse. Standard

*FANTAISISTE #6923 10/4/88 (Tremblay) Double pink, blue fantasy. Medium green, plain foliage. Large

*FANTASY DELIGHT #7043 1/17/89 (Eyerdom) Double pink, blue fantasy with white edge. Medium green, pointed, plain, glossy foliage. Standard

*FANTASY SPECIAL #7075 2/9/89 (Hart) Double purple-blue with light pink/dark pink/white fantasy. Dark green, quilted, glossy foliage. Large

*FANTASY SUNSET #7044 1/17/89 (Eyerdom) Semidouble bright pink, dark blue fantasy speckles. Medium green, pointed, plain, glossy foliage. Standard

*FANTASY TOYLAND #7026 11/29/88 (Tinari) Double slightly ruffled lavender pink fantasy. Medium green, plain, pointed foliage. Miniature

FARRAH See RHAPSODIE® - FARRAH

**FERNANDO OTRA VEZ #6681 6/5/87 (Domiano) Semidouble medium blue w/dark eye veins and edges. Dark plain glossy red reverse foliage. Large

*FIRST HOUSTON #68927/11/88 (L. Munk) Single frilled edge fuchsia red pansy. Medium green with light green reverse, plain foliage. Large

FLASH CAT (Boone) Frilled bright pink and rose two-tone semidouble. Medium green plain foliage. Standard

FLASHY TRAIL (Pittman) Small bell-shaped lavender single, purple fantasy markings. Dark trailing foliage. Miniature trailer

*FLIRTATIOUS #6993 11/10/88 (Wilson) Single/semidouble ruffled pansy shaped raspberry two tone. Green black, quilted, ovate, scalloped edges, glossy foliage, red reverse. Large

FLORIDA See OPTIMARA®-FLORIDA

FLORIDA II See OPTIMARA® - FLORIDA II

*FONTENELLE #7068 2/6/89 (Stork) Double ruffled lavender pansy banded with violet, geneva edge. Dark green, slightly wavy, pointed foliage, deep rose reverse. Large

FORTUNE COOKIE (Fredette) Large pink semi-

double and double stars. Dark green, ivory, and rose tailored variegated foliage. Standard

*FREDETTE'S BETHESDA #7095 3/18/89 (Fredette) Semidouble/double ruffled deep red. Wavy, lightly ruffled, medium green, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Standard

*FREDETTE'S EASTER JOY #7096 3/18/89 (Fredette) Double ruffled white, red edged inner petals, green edged outer petals. Glossy, emerald green, plain foliage. Standard

*FREDETTE'S RISEN STAR #7097 3/18/89 (Fredette) Semidouble wavy pink star with raspberry glitter, heavier around petal edges. Tommie Lou variegated plain foliage. Large

*FRESNO HOEDOWN #7148 7/14/89 (Beeman) Double ruffled red-fuchsia, geneva edge. Dark green, hairy, plain foliage, rose reverse. Large

*FRESNO JAMBOREE #7149 7/14/89 (Beeman) Double ruffled red-fuchsia with broad white edge. Black/green, hairy, plain foliage, rose reverse. Large

*FRITZY #6927 10/31/88 (Steinman) Semidouble white. Light green, plain foliage. Semiminiature FROSTED SHERRY (Sorano) Fuchsia single to semidouble star, white edge, sparkle overlay. Green, pink and cream variegated foliage. Standard

*FUN RUN #7080 2/10/89 (Pittman) Double pink sometimes with white. Tommie Lou variegated plain foliage. Semiminiature

G

**GAETANO #4659 12/5/81 (Maas) Semidouble fringed medium pink with dark eye. Plain pointed foliage. Standard

GALA PINK (Boone) Huge fluted pink double. Medium to dark green foliage. Large

**GALAXY TRAILS #5246 4/9/83 (Phillips) Double pink. Medium green, red reverse plain pointed foliage. Semiminiature trailer

GAMBIT (Fredette) Large shaded rose red doubles. Tailored variegated foliage. Standard

*GARNET HALO #7063 2/6/89 (Boone) Semidouble/double vibrant purplish red pansy. Variegated, dark green, plain foliage, rose reverse. Large

*GEMCRAFT PINK PEARL #7185 9/7/89 (Jolliff) Double fringed white with pink streaks, green edge. Variegated, medium green, ruffled, glossy foliage. Standard

GEMINI See OPTIMARA® - GEMINI

GENTLE BREEZES (Blansit) Light mauve-pink double, occasional blue flecks. Dark green, slightly wavy, red reverse foliage. Large

*GENTLE PERSUASION #7120 5/15/89 (Domiano) Semidouble light fuchsia two tone star. Black/green, wavy, glossy foliage. Large

GEORGIA See OPTIMARA®-GEORGIA

GEORGIA II See OPTIMARA® - GEORGIA II

GIFT WRAPPED (Blansit) Light pink single to semidouble pansy, broad fuchsia edge, occasional blue flecks. Medium green quilted foliage. Standard

GLITTERSTAR (Fredette) Bright pink blossoms, ruby glitter edges. Dark tailored variegated foliage with ivory and rose band. Standard

GLORY See **APACHE GLORY**

GRAND LADY (Sorano) Large medium pink single to semidouble star, orchid glitter overlay. Standard

GREEN LACE (Sorano) Very large white semi-double star, wide green band. Medium green foliage. Large

H

****HALF AND HALF** #2750 11/13/75 (Champion) Single fringed dark blue and white, blue eye, variable. Medium green, ruffled, pointed, variegated. Large

HALO See **RUTH'S HALO**

HAND MADE (Pittman) Dark purple semidouble. Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Semiminiature

***HAPPY TEEN** #7081 2/10/89 (Pittman) Double fuchsia and white. Tommie Lou variegated strawberry, wavy, glossy foliage. Semiminiature

HARLEQUIN See **OPTIMARA® - HARLEQUIN**

HEARTLAND (Fredette) Large pink stars, red centers. Tailored variegated foliage. Standard

***HEAVENLY NOTES** #7019 12/17/88 (Gross) Semidouble/double lavender two tone with darker tips and fine edge. Medium green, pointed, serrated, quilted foliage. Standard

***HECTOR** #7082 2/10/89 (Pittman) Semidouble fringed deep burgundy-purple with geneva edge. Tommie Lou variegated plain foliage. Semiminiature

HEIR APPARENT (Boone) Medium blue semi-double star, white edge. Medium to dark green foliage. Standard

***HIDDEN BEAUTY** #7099 4/8/89 (L. Munk) Double fringed strawberry pink with lavender overlay. Medium green, plain foliage. Standard

***HIROKO** #7045 1/17/89 (Eyerdom) Semidouble chimera, white center, pink and blue fantasy striped edge. Sometimes mottled light or dark green, pointed, plain, glossy foliage. Standard

***HIROSHIMA** #6901 8/22/88 (Nadeau) Single sticktight dark blue with white side stripes chimera. Medium green quilted foliage, light green reverse. Standard

***HIS GLORY** #7143 7/3/89 (Promersberger) Single ruffled fuchsia star. Dark green, serrated, quilted, ruffled, glossy foliage, red reverse. Large

***HIS TRIUMPH** #7144 7/3/89 (Promersberger) Single fringed royal purple star. Dark green, serrated, quilted, ruffled, glossy foliage, red reverse. Large

***HUSH BLUE** #7046 1/17/89 (Eyerdom) Double light blue with variable amounts of white markings. Medium green, quilted, glossy foliage. Standard

I

ICE See **BIMINI ICE**

ICE DANCING (Sorano) White single to semi-double, medium blue markings. Green and white

variegated foliage. Standard

***ICE FANTASY** #7069 2/6/89 (Stork) Double wavy white star with light blue fantasy markings. Dark green, quilted foliage. Large

***ICE WATER** #7070 2/6/89 (Stork) Double two tone light blue wavy star. Dark green, quilted foliage, rose reverse. Large

INCOGNITO (Swift) Pale pink full double. Dark quilted, red reverse foliage. Standard

IAWA See **OPTIMARA® - IAWA**

IRENE See **RHAPSODIE® - IRENE**

IRISH MAIDEN (Sorano) Mostly green full double touched with white and/or pink in center. Medium green ruffled foliage. Standard

***IVORY TOWER** #7145 7/14/89 (Elkin) Single large ivory white star. Dark green, variegated, pointed, plain foliage. Standard

J

JANIVEER (Fredette) Large ruffled pink doubles. Dark green and pink variegated foliage. Standard

JASON MICHAEL See **MARIE'S JASON MICHAEL**

***JEAN-PIERRE CROTEAU** #7038 1/9/89 (Croteau) Semidouble deep purple fantasy splashed with coral spots. Dark green, serrated, quilted foliage. Large

JENNIE See **RHAPSODIE® - JENNIE**

***JENNIFER CHRISTINE** #7164 8/1/89 (Cook) Semidouble fringed white with red center. Medium green plain foliage. Standard

JO See **OPTIMARA® - JO**

JOEY'S PAL See **NESS' JOEY'S PAL**

JUD See **PAPA'S JUD**

JULIANA See **RHAPSODIE® - JULIANA**

***JUST DESSERTS** #7121 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double pink two tone star. Medium green, plain foliage. Large

JUST PINK See **NESS' JUST PINK**

K

***KATHE DENISE** #6931 11/14/88 (Nadeau) Semidouble ruffled bright pink two tone. Dark green and some pink variegated, plain foliage. Large

***KATHY GEE** #7047 1/17/89 (Eyerdom) Double bright pink darker eye two tone. Medium green, hairy, pointed, quilted foliage, red reverse. Standard

***KATRINA MARIE** #7166 8/1/89 (Bell) Single sticktight pale mauve-white pansy with deeper tips. Dark green quilted foliage, red reverse. Standard

KID KARLA (Pittman) Sky blue semidouble. Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Semiminiature

KING'S TREASURE (Sorano) Dark lavender semidouble star edged in purple, edged again in white, often tinged green. Medium green foliage. Standard

***KISS AND TELL** #7122 5/15/89 (Domiano) Semidouble deep fuchsia star with red glitter eye. Black/green, pointed, glossy, red reverse. Large

****KISS OF FIRE** #6704 7/10/87 (Domiano) Semidouble ruffled reddish/purple two tone usually

w/fine geneva edge. Medium green, plain, glossy, serrated foliage w/red reverse. Large
KNOXVILLE See OPTIMARA® - KNOXVILLE

L

LADY LILLIAN See MARIE'S LADY LILLIAN
LAND See ZACA-LAND

*LE BON PAPA #7123 5/15/89 (Domiano) Single white pansy with purple edge and streaks. Medium/dark green, variegated, wavy, pointed, glossy foliage. Large

LEPRECHAUN'S DAYDREAM (Sorano) Large, light pink full double star, wide green band. Dark green foliage. Standard

*LICORICE STICK #7146 7/14/89 (Elkin) Single chimera, dark violet pansy shape, very long upper petals with white center stripe. Dark green, variegated, pointed, plain foliage. Standard

LIGHTNING STRIKES (Sorano) White semidouble to double, wide medium blue band. Medium green and white variegated foliage. Standard

LIL-BIT-O-IRISH (Sorano) White double, green petal tips. Medium green and white variegated foliage. Semiminiature

*LILIAN JARRETT VARIEGATED #2902 9/28/89 (Tinari) Double baby pink. Mosaic variegated, medium green, serrated, pointed foliage. Standard

LIME See BIMINI LIME

*LITTLE AL #6886 6/15/88 (Cornibe) Single dark blue with geneva edge. Variegated light green and white with lightly wavy foliage. Semiminiature

LITTLE AMETHYST See OPTIMARA® - LITTLE AMETHYST

LITTLE APATITE See OPTIMARA® - LITTLE APATITE

LITTLE AQUAMARINE See OPTIMARA-LITTLE AQUAMARINE

LITTLE BLUE TOPAZ See OPTIMARA-LITTLE BLUE TOPAZ

LITTLE CRYSTAL See OPTIMARA-LITTLE CRYSTAL

LITTLE DIAMOND See OPTIMARA® - LITTLE DIAMOND

*LITTLE EVA #6997 11/10/88 (Elkin) Double ruffled medium pink star with darker eye, green/white edge. Emerald green, plain, pointed foliage. Standard

LITTLE GIRL See MARIE'S LITTLE GIRL

*LITTLE JAMES #6887 6/15/88 (Cornibe) Semidouble fringed pink with lavender shading. Variegated with light pink, yellow and white foliage, red reverse. Semiminiature

LITTLE JOSEPHINE See ROB'S LITTLE JOSEPHINE

LITTLE KUNZITE See OPTIMARA-LITTLE KUNZITE

LITTLE MERMAID (Sorano) Dark blue and white double star. Medium green and white variegated foliage. Semiminiature

LITTLE MOONSTONE See OPTIMARA-LITTLE MOONSTONE

LITTLE OPAL See OPTIMARA® - LITTLE OPAL

*LITTLE PALETTE #7188 9/25/89 (Pittman)

Double rosy pink. Dark green plain, serrated, quilted foliage, red reverse. Semiminiature

LITTLE PEARL See OPTIMARA® - LITTLE PEARL

LITTLE RUBY See OPTIMARA® - LITTLE RUBY

LITTLE STORMY (Sorano) Dark blue full double. Dark green, pink and white variegated shiny foliage. Semiminiature

LITTLE TOURMALINE See OPTIMARA-LITTLE TOURMALINE

*LOLLY'S BOBBY #6890 7/9/88 (Jarzab) Single deep purple with lighter petal backs. Dark green wavy foliage with lighter green reverse. Standard

LOS ANGELES See OPTIMARA® - LOS ANGELES

LOUISIANA II See OPTIMARA® - LOUISIANA II

*LOUISIANA SUGAR CANE #7124 5/15/89 (Domiano) Semidouble ruffled cool pink two tone pansy. Dark green tailored, glossy foliage. Large

LOVE IN BLOOM (Sorano) Lightly ruffled, pink semidouble, light pink band fading to white. Medium green and white, lightly wavy variegated foliage. Standard

M

*MAAS' CHRIS #7010 12/8/88 (Maas) Double ruffled hot pink. Dark green, slightly ruffled foliage. Standard

*MAAS' SASHAH #7011 12/8/88 (Maas) Double light pink, wavy edge. Medium green, plain, ovate foliage. Standard

MAGGIE LEE (Wilson) Large hot pink semidoubles, white edge. Medium green tailored foliage. Standard

*MAGGIE'S BE GOOD #6888 6/16/88 (Weir) Single to semidouble two tone pink sometimes with green top petal edges. Dark green quilted foliage with red reverse. Standard

MAGIC HALO (Boone) Frilled deep violet blue full double. Green and cream variegated, slightly wavy foliage. Standard

*MAGIC TRAIL #7189 9/25/89 (Pittman) Double pink two tone with fuchsia tips. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. Miniature trailer

MAGNETIC FIELD See ROB'S MAGNETIC FIELD

MANITOBA II See OPTIMARA®-MANITOBA II

*MANLY #7125 5/15/89 (Domiano) Single blue and white multicolor pansy. Deep green, variegated, slightly wavy, serrated foliage. Large

*MARCIE #7093 3/6/89 (Harrington) Semidouble two tone pink. Pointed, lightly serrated, medium green foliage. Standard

*MARCUS #7060 1/20/89 (Burns) Single/semi-double pansy shaped magenta blossoms. Dark, serrated, quilted, glossy foliage, reddish reverse. Large

*MARIE'S ADAM CHRISTOPHER #7150 7/14/89 (Beeman) Double ruffled white pansy. Dark

- green, variegated, hairy, wavy, serrated foliage. Large
- ***MARIE'S ALAN LEE** #7151 7/14/89 (Beeman) Double fringed midnight blue pansy, white pencil edge. Variegated rose and cream, dark green, hairy, pointed, ruffled foliage. Large
- ***MARIE'S BRANDON SHANE** #7152 7/14/89 (Beeman) Semidouble/double ruffled bright blue pansy with deeper blue pencil edge. Dark green, rose and cream variegated, hairy, serrated, quilted. Large
- ***MARIE'S CHELSEA ANNE** #7153 7/14/89 (Beeman) Semidouble ruffled white. Medium green, Tommie Lou variegated, pointed, serrated foliage. Large
- ***MARIE'S DARRELL JAMES** #7154 7/14/89 (Beeman) Semidouble/double ruffled bluish-lavender pansy. Dark green, variegated, hairy, pointed, serrated foliage. Large
- ***MARIE'S DEBRA ANN** #7155 7/14/89 (Beeman) Double wavy deep rose fading to pink on petal edges. Variegated, wavy, hairy, serrated foliage. Standard
- ***MARIE'S JASON MICHAEL** #7156 7/14/89 (Beeman) Semidouble/double wavy orchid. Medium green, Tommie Lou variegated, slightly cupped, hairy, serrated, quilted foliage. Large
- ***MARIE'S LADY LILLIAN** #6898 7/26/88 (Beeman) Double light blue star. Light green, cream and pink variegated, quilted, wavy foliage. Large
- ***MARIE'S LITTLE GIRL** #6899 7/26/88 (Beeman) Semidouble fringed two tone medium blue with some lighter spots near center. Dark green and rose variegated, plain, quilted foliage. Large
- ***MARIE'S MATTHEW MANUEL** #7157 7/14/89 (Beeman) Double light blue bell. Dark green, variegated, hairy, serrated foliage. Standard
- ***MARIE'S MICHAEL ALAN** #7158 7/14/89 (Beeman) Single fringed medium lavender star. Dark green, variegated, slightly cupped, hairy, serrated, quilted foliage. Large
- ***MARIE'S PACIFIC SUNRISE** #7159 7/14/89 (Beeman) Single/semidouble ruffled pink and blue fantasy. Dark green, variegated, hairy, wavy, quilted foliage. Large
- ***MARIE'S PAMELA ANN** #7160 7/14/89 (Beeman) Single sticktight ruffled white star, some green edging. Dark green, heavily variegated, hairy, serrated, plain foliage. Large
- ***MARIE'S PRETTY CORINNE** #6900 7/26/88 (Beeman) Double fringed two tone light and pale blue. Dark green, rose and cream variegated plain, quilted, fringed foliage. Large
- ***MARIE'S SHANNON PAUL** #7161 7/14/89 (Beeman) Double fringed dark blue with red shading in center, green edge. Dark green, variegated, hairy, ruffled foliage. Large
- MARTINIQUE** See **OPTIMARA® - MARTINIQUE**
- MARYJANE'S LOVE** (Williams) Fluted peach pink full double. Heavily variegated pink and white foliage. Standard
- MARYLAND** See **OPTIMARA®-MARYLAND**
- MARYLAND II** See **OPTIMARA® - MARYLAND II**
- ***MASAYO** #7048 1/17/89 (Eyerdom) Double bright red orchid, wide white edge. Medium green, plain, glossy, ovate foliage. Standard
- MATTHEW MANUEL** See **MARIE'S MATTHEW MANUEL**
- MAY APPLE** (Fredette) Large blush stars. Large variegated foliage. Large
- MAYFAIR** (Fredette) Large peony-like pink or pink and white blossoms. Pointed tailored foliage. Standard
- MEG** See **RHAPSODIE® - MEG**
- ***MEMORIES** #7061 1/20/89 (Burns) Single/semi-double medium pink ruffled stars. Dark green, serrated, quilted, glossy foliage, red reverse. Large
- MEMORY LANE** (Fredette) Blue and white pansies. Plain tailored foliage. Standard
- ***MEMPHIS MAGIC** #7049 1/17/89 (Eyerdom) Double medium pink with fine blue fantasy specks. Dark green, plain, glossy, ovate foliage, red reverse. Standard
- ***MERCI BEAUCOUP** #7039 1/9/89 (Croteau) Double white, sometimes very light pink. Dark green, serrated, quilted foliage with reddish reverse. Standard
- MICHAEL ALAN** See **MARIE'S MICHAEL ALAN**
- MIDNIGHT MAGIC** (Sorano) Dark plum purple double star, white edge often tinged green. Standard
- ***MILKY WAY TRAIL** #7169 8/1/89 (Stahl) Single/semidouble white pansy. Medium green, quilted, heart-shaped foliage. Semiminiature trailer
- ***MINDI BROOKE** #7064 2/6/89 (Boone) Double wavy pink. Plain, dark green foliage, variegated with cream and pink, red reverse. Large
- MINDI'S DREAM** (Boone) Frilled two-tone mauve to deep rose semidouble. Dark green and cream variegated, tailored foliage. Standard
- MINI PAPA** (Pittman) Medium blue double. Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Semiminiature
- MINNESOTA SPLASH** See **NESS' MINNESOTA SPLASH**
- ***MINUETTE** #7126 5/15/89 (Domiano) Semidouble pure white pansy, may have pink touches. Dark green, Tommie Lou variegated, hairy, pointed foliage. Large
- ***MIRAMANEE** #6995 11/17/88 (Wilkening) Sticktight single fuchsia-red pansy. Bright green, plain, quilted, heart-shaped, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Miniature
- MISCHIEVOUS** See **ROB'S MISCHIEVOUS**
- MISSY FANTASY** See **SHIRLEY'S MISSY FANTASY**
- ***MISTER BRIAN** #6996 11/10/88 (Elkin) Double white star with red edge, sometimes has stripes. Medium green, plain, pointed foliage. Standard
- ***MISTRESS EVIL** #6998 11/10/88 (Elkin) Double two tone bright pink star with fuchsia fantasy on petal edges. Emerald green, plain, pointed foliage. Standard
- ***MISTRESS PEPPER** #6999 11/10/88 (Elkin) Single

- coral pink with reddish/plum eye and blue fantasy. Dark green, plain foliage. Miniature
- *MISTRESS RAVEN #7000 11/10/88 (Elkin) Double rosy pink star with dark rose band, white/green edge. Emerald green, plain, pointed, serrated edge foliage. Standard
- *MISTRESS SCALLY #7001 11/10/88 (Elkin) Single medium fuchsia pink star, darker red band, pink eyebrows, green/white edge. Emerald green, plain, pointed foliage. Standard
- *MISTY MOON #7083 2/10/89 (Pittman) Semidouble blue. Dark green plain foliage. Semiminiature
- *MIXED EMOTIONS #6893 7/11/88 (L. Munk) Semidouble fringed white with pink bottom petals and green tops. Medium green wavy foliage with lighter green reverse. Large
- *MIYUKI #7050 1/17/89 (Eyerdom) Double white. Light green, pointed, quilted foliage. Standard
- MONIQUE See RHAPSODIE® - MONIQUE
- *MONTGOMERY SILVER FROST #7051 1/17/89 (Eyerdom) Semidouble fringed pink fantasy with variable red sparkle markings and occasional geneva edge. Medium green, plain, glossy foliage. Standard
- MOON BRIGHT (Pittman) White semidouble, purple edge. Plain foliage. Semiminiature
- *MOONLIGHT LADY #7127 5/15/89 (Domiano) Semidouble medium orchid two tone star. Black green, wavy, serrated, glossy, red reverse. Large
- MORNING GIRL (Pittman) Lavender semidouble. Girl foliage. Semiminiature
- *MY CHINOOK #7167 8/1/89 (Bell) Single pink two tone with deeper pink eye. Dark quilted foliage, red reverse. Standard
- N
- NANCY See RHAPSODIE® - NANCY
- NEAT NELLIE See NESS' NEAT NELLIE
- **NESS' BALLYHOO BLUE #6909 9/24/88 (Ness) Semidouble light blue two tone with darker blue fantasy streaks. Medium green plain, lightly scalloped foliage. Standard
- **NESS' BLUE BABE #6910 9/24/88 (Ness) Double light blue, sometimes with paler blue or white edges. Medium green longifolia, pointed, hairy foliage. Standard
- NESS' BLUE SQUIRT (Ness) Medium blue double. Dark green foliage. Semiminiature
- NESS' CALYPSO GAL (Ness) Slightly two-tone fuchsia-pink fringed double. Medium green quilted foliage. Standard
- *NESS' CAMEO PINK #7177 9/5/89 (Ness) Semidouble ruffled light pink. Medium green quilted, lightly scalloped foliage. Standard
- **NESS' CRIMSON KISS #6911 9/24/88 (Ness) Double dusty wine two tone, sometimes has deeper wine tips. Dark green quilted, wavy foliage with red reverse. Standard
- *NESS' DILLY-DALLY #7178 9/5/89 (Ness) Semidouble ruffled white pansy with fuchsia edge. Light green quilted, heart-shaped foliage. Standard
- **NESS' JOEY'S PAL #6912 9/24/88 (Ness) Semidouble lightly fringed medium blue. Medium green quilted scalloped foliage. Standard
- NESS' JUST PINK (Ness) Pink semidouble. Dark green quilted, red reverse foliage. Standard
- **NESS' MINNESOTA SPLASH #6913 9/24/88 (Ness) Double fringed deep pink. Variable. Sometimes has white petal tips. Dark green quilted, scalloped foliage with red reverse. Standard
- **NESS' NEAT NELLIE #6914 9/24/88 (Ness) Single sticktight fuchsia pink, sometimes with white penciledging. Crown variegated green and cream, quilted, wavy foliage. Standard
- **NESS' NIGHT LIFE #6915 9/24/88 (Ness) Semidouble fringed white with red edge. Light green plain, lightly serrated foliage. Standard
- NESS' PEACH FLUFF (Ness) Peach semidouble pansy. Dark green slightly wavy foliage. Standard
- *NESS' PINK SQUIRT #7179 9/5/89 (Ness) Double ruffled light pink. Dark green spooned, serrated, glossy foliage, red reverse. Semiminiature
- *NESS' SATIN RUFFLES #7180 9/5/89 (Ness) Semidouble ruffled deep red pansy, often with green edge. Dark green wavy, quilted, scalloped foliage, red reverse. Standard
- **NESS' SHIRLEY'S DELIGHT #6916 9/24/88 (Ness) Semidouble ruffled pink, sometimes with deeper pink eye. Crown variegated green and cream, quilted, wavy, scalloped foliage with Standard
- **NESS' SNOWY DAZE #6917 9/24/88 (Ness) Semidouble to double fringed white. Light green quilted, pointed, serrated foliage. Standard
- NESS' VIKING BABE (Ness) Very pale pink, frilled semidouble. Medium green plain foliage. Standard
- *NESS' VIKING KING #7181 9/5/89 (Ness) Semidouble lightly ruffled two tone mauve pansy. Dark green serrated, quilted foliage, red reverse. Standard
- *NESS' VIKING MAIDEN #7182 9/5/89 (Ness) Semidouble ruffled white pansy. Medium green wavy, quilted, scalloped foliage. Standard
- NESS' WHEEZY BLUE (Ness) Light blue semidouble with darker blue fantasy streaks. Dark green girl foliage. Standard
- NEVADA See OPTIMARA® - NEVADA
- NEW JERSEY See OPTIMARA® - NEW JERSEY
- NEW JERSEY II See OPTIMARA® - NEW JERSEY II
- II
- NICOLE (Fredette) Huge shaded pink and rose stars. Large variegated foliage. Large
- NIGHT LIFE See NESS' NIGHT LIFE
- NITE BLOOMERS See PAPA'S NITE BLOOMERS
- *NORMA WILKENING #7094 3/15/89 (Wilkening) Semidouble light pink ruffled star. Quilted, heart-shaped, medium green foliage, lighter reverse. Standard
- NORTH CAROLINA II See OPTIMARA® - NORTH CAROLINA II

*NORTHWOODS SPRING FANCY #6919 9/26/
88 (Cox) Single medium pink pansy. Medium to
dark green, plain, glossy foliage. Semiminiature

O

OH MELBA (Blansit) Huge pink single to semi-
double chimera, broad irregular violet bands,
blue specks. Dark green quilted foliage. Standard

OKLAHOMA See OPTIMARA® - OKLAHOMA

OLD SPANISH TRAIL (Pittman) Bright purple
semidouble. Dark trailing foliage. Semiminiature
trailer

*OMAHA #70712/6/89 (Stork) Double deep violet-
blue star with wavy geneva edge. Medium green,
quilted foliage. Large

*OPTIMARA® - ALABAMA II #6938 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single fringed white with violet blue
center and edges. Medium green, hairy, plain,
ovate foliage, light green reverse. Standard

*OPTIMARA® - ALASKA #6939 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single white star multicolor with
violet blue radiating from the center. Medium
green, hairy, serrated, heart-shaped to ovate foli-
age. Standard

*OPTIMARA® - AQUARIUS #6943 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single violet blue. Medium green,
cupped, slightly hairy, girl, serrated, compact
foliage. Standard

*OPTIMARA® - ATLANTA II #6942 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single very light pink. Dark green,
girl, serrated, glossy, compact foliage. Standard

**OPTIMARA®-CALIFORNIA #3151 6/2/77
(Holtkamp) Purple single. Medium green,
quilted glossy. Standard

**OPTIMARA®-COLORADO #3152 6/2/77
(Holtkamp) Single ruffled purple-red. Medium/
dark green, quilted, glossy, hairy foliage. Stan-
dard

*OPTIMARA® - COLORADO II #6943 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single fringed purplish red. Medium
green, hairy, serrated, heart-shaped foliage. Stan-
dard

*OPTIMARA® - DALLAS #6944 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single purplish pink with wavy
edges. Light green, girl, hairy, wavy, serrated,
glossy compact foliage. Standard

*OPTIMARA® - DECENTIE #6948 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single ruffled dark purplish pink
with burgundy red centers, sometimes with
lighter edges. Medium green, hairy, plain, glossy,
heart-shaped foliage. Standard

**OPTIMARA®-DELAWARE #3153 6/2/77
(Holtkamp) Single purple-red star. Medium
green, quilted, glossy, hairy foliage. Standard

*OPTIMARA® - DELAWARE II #6845 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single purplish red star. Medium
green, hairy, plain, heart-shaped to ovate foliage.
Standard

**OPTIMARA®-FLORIDA #3154 6/2/77
(Holtkamp) Single medium purple. Medium
green, quilted, glossy, hairy foliage. Standard

*OPTIMARA® - FLORIDA II #6950 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single slightly fringed purplish pink.

Medium green, hairy, pointed, slightly serrated,
glossy, ovate foliage. Standard

*OPTIMARA® - GEMINI #6951 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single two tone, bright pink with
darker eye. Medium green, girl, slightly hairy,
serrated, glossy, ovate foliage. Standard

**OPTIMARA®-GEORGIA #3155 6/2/77
(Holtkamp) Single pink. Dark green, plain,
glossy, hairy foliage. Standard

*OPTIMARA® - GEORGIA II #6946 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single ruffled pink. Medium, hairy,
slightly serrated, heart-shaped to ovate foliage.
Standard

*OPTIMARA® - HARLEQUIN #6947 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single fringed white with purplish
red edges. Medium green, occasionally serrated,
glossy, heart-shaped to ovate foliage. Standard

*OPTIMARA® - IOWA #6952 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single purplish blue. Medium green,
hairy, plain, slightly glossy foliage. Standard

*OPTIMARA® - JO #6953 11/19/88 (Holtkamp)
Single to semidouble purplish red. Medium green
girl, wavy, serrated, compact foliage. Standard

*OPTIMARA® - KNOXVILLE #6954 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single ruffled pink two tone with
darker eye. Medium green, girl, hairy, wavy, ser-
rated, compact foliage. Standard

*OPTIMARA® - LITTLE AMETHYST #6937 11/
19/88 (Holtkamp) Semidouble to double pur-
plish red with fine geneva edges. Very dark,
hairy, pointed, serrated, glossy, ovate foliage
with purplish red reverse. Miniature

*OPTIMARA® - LITTLE APATITE #6941 11/19/
88 (Holtkamp) Single lilac with elongated petals
and lighter lilac back. Medium green, hairy,
slightly serrated, glossy, heart-shaped foliage.
Miniature

OPTIMARA®-LITTLE AQUAMARINE
(Holtkamp) White single with blue center. Me-
dium green foliage. Miniature

OPTIMARA®-LITTLE BLUE TOPAZ (Holtkamp)
Deep blue single. Medium green foliage. Mini-
ature

OPTIMARA®-LITTLE CRYSTAL (Holtkamp)
White single. Medium green foliage. Miniature

*OPTIMARA® - LITTLE DIAMOND #6949 11/
19/88 (Holtkamp) Semidouble white, centers
occasionally blue. Medium green, hairy, pointed,
slightly serrated, glossy, ovate foliage. Miniature

OPTIMARA®-LITTLE KUNZITE (Holtkamp)
Deep pink single. Medium green foliage. Mini-
ature

OPTIMARA®-LITTLE MOONSTONE
(Holtkamp) White and blue semidouble. Me-
dium green foliage. Miniature

*OPTIMARA® - LITTLE OPAL #6955 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single, slightly bell shaped white
with purplish blue center. Light green, hairy,
finely serrated, glossy, longifolia to heart-shaped
foliage. Miniature

*OPTIMARA® - LITTLE PEARL #6956 11/19/88
(Holtkamp) Single to semidouble very light pink-
ish white. Medium green, hairy, pointed, glossy,

- heart-shaped to ovate foliage. Miniature
- *OPTIMARA® - LITTLE RUBY #6957 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single to semidouble purplish red. Medium green, hairy, pointed, glossy, ovate foliage. Miniature
- *OPTIMARA®-LITTLE TOURMALINE (Holtkamp) Pink semidouble. Medium green foliage. Miniature
- *OPTIMARA® - LOS ANGELES #6958 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Semidouble deep purple blue. Medium green, girl, cupped, wavy, serrated compact foliage. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - LOUISIANA II #6959 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single to semidouble light pink two tone with darker eye and occasionally darker edges. Medium green, slightly hairy, plain, heart-shaped to ovate. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - MANITOBA II #6960 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single to semidouble light blue sometimes with fine geneva on some edges. Medium green, hairy, pointed, slightly serrated, ovate foliage. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - MARTINIQUE #6961 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single slightly fringed blue with fine geneva edge. Medium green, hairy, serrated, heart-shaped to ovate foliage. Standard
- **OPTIMARA®-MARYLAND #3156 6/2/77 (Holtkamp) Single/double medium blue star. Medium green, glossy, hairy, quilted foliage. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - MARYLAND II #6962 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single to semidouble fringed light violet blue. Medium green, hairy, slightly serrated, slightly glossy, heart-shaped to ovate foliage. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - NEVADA #6964 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single fringed white and purplish red multicolor. Medium green, slightly serrated, heart-shaped to ovate foliage. Standard
- **OPTIMARA®-NEW JERSEY #3157 6/2/77 (Holtkamp) Single fringed pink. Quilted foliage. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - NEW JERSEY II #6965 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single fringed deep pink. Medium green, cupped, hairy, pointed, ovate foliage. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - NORTH CAROLINA II #6966 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single intense purplish red. Dark green, hairy, heart-shaped to ovate foliage. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - OKLAHOMA #6967 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single fringed and ruffled purplish red two tone with darker center. Medium green, hairy, plain foliage. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - PENNSYLVANIA #6968 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single to semidouble purplish red star. Medium green, slightly hairy, plain, glossy, ovate to round foliage, occasional red back. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - ROSE QUARTZ #6969 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single to semidouble pink. Medium green, hairy, pointed, glossy, ovate foliage. Miniature
- *OPTIMARA® - SAINT LOUIS #6970 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single solid purple. Medium green, cupped, hairy, girl, compact foliage. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - SAN FRANCISCO #6971 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single lilac star. Medium green, cupped, girl, wavy, serrated compact foliage. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - SCORPIO #6991 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single lilac. Medium green girl foliage, wavy, slightly serrated, compact. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - SHENANDOAH #6972 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Semidouble wavy blue. Medium green, hairy, slightly serrated, slightly glossy, ovate to round foliage. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - TAURUS #6973 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single dark lilac. Medium green, slightly hairy, girl, slightly serrated, heart-shaped, ovate to round, compact foliage. Standard
- OPTIMARA®-VIOLET SAPPHIRE (Holtkamp) Deep purple single. Medium green foliage. Miniature
- **OPTIMARA®- VIRGINIA #3160 6/2/77 (Holtkamp) Single fringed pink. Quilted foliage. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - VIRGO #6974 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single very light pink. Medium bright green girl, wavy, serrated, glossy compact foliage. Standard
- *OPTIMARA® - WEST VIRGINIA #6975 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single fringed, ruffled two tone pink with darker eye and edge, radiating into petals. Dark green, hairy, slightly serrated, glossy, heart-shaped. Standard

P

- PACIFIC SUNRISE See MARIE'S PACIFIC SUNRISE
- PAINTED SUNSET (Sorano) Dusty rose pink semi-double star, white edge. Green, beige and white Champion variegated foliage. Standard
- PAL PAUL See ROB'S PAL PAUL
- PAMELA See PAPA'S PAMELA
- PAMELA ANN See MARIE'S PAMELA ANN
- PAMELA See RHAPSODIE® - PAMELA
- *PAPA'S JUD #6905 9/8/88 (Hayes) Semidouble lavender two tone with dark top tips. Dark green and white variegated, plain, quilted, serrated, wavy foliage. Standard
- *PAPA'S NITE BLOOMERS #6906 9/8/88 (Hayes) Double lavender two tone with dark tips. Green and white variegated plain, quilted foliage. Standard
- *PAPA'S PAMELA #6907 9/8/88 (Hayes) Double dark blue. Plain, wavy variegated Tommie Lou foliage. Large
- *PAPA'S PRINCESS #6908 9/8/88 (Hayes) Semi-double medium blue. Green and white variegated, plain, quilted, wavy, pointed, serrated foliage. Large
- PARTLY CLOUDY (Boone) Frilled blue and white mottled semidouble to double, green edge. Medium green wavy foliage. Standard

- ***PARTY ANIMAL** #7128 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double deep orchid two tone pansy. Dark green, slightly rounded, plain, glossy foliage. Large
- ***PASSION'S PROMISE** #7129 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double fringed two tone fuchsia pansy. Medium green, plain, glossy foliage. Large
- ***PASSION'S REWARD** #7130 5/15/89 (Domiano) Semidouble ruffled purple two tone pansy with darker eye and edges. Medium green, plain, glossy foliage. Large
- ***PAT CHAMPAGNE** #7084 2/10/89 (Pittman) Semidouble deep blue with geneva edge. Tommie Lou variegated, plain, ovate foliage. Semiminature
- ***PATHFINDER** #7072 2/6/89 (Stork) Double purple pansy with geneva edge. Dark green, pointed foliage. Large
- ***PATT'S CAMEO** #6895 7/13/88 (Harris) Double fringed cameo pink two tone with coppery upper lobes. Medium green, plain, round foliage. Semiminature trailer
- PEACE** See APACHE PEACE
- PEACH FLOAT** (Wilson) Two tone peach doubles. Tailored variegated foliage with pink edges. Standard
- PEACH FLUFF** See NESS' PEACH FLUFF
- PENNSYLVANIA** See OPTIMARA® - PENNSYLVANIA
- ***PENNY BRITE** #7020 12/17/88 (Gross) Single/semidouble white with wide lavender edge. Medium green, pointed, serrated, quilted foliage. Standard
- PEPPERMINT LADY** (Sorano) Lightly ruffled fuchsia and white semidouble. Medium green and white variegated foliage. Standard
- ***PERCY BURTON EARLE** #7168 8/1/89 (Bell) Double mauve blue with deeper purple tips. Dark green quilted foliage, red reverse. Large
- PERKY MISS** (Sorano) Medium pink semidouble tipped with mauve. Medium green, pink and white variegated foliage. Semiminature
- ***PETITE JEWEL** #7085 2/10/89 (Pittman) Double two tone lavender blue. Tommie Lou variegated plain foliage. Miniature
- ***PHANTOM FLASH** #7065 2/6/89 (Boone) Semidouble lavender-purple two tone fringed pansy. Medium green, plain, glossy foliage. Standard
- ***PICASSO** #6924 10/4/88 (Tremblay) Double light blue fantasy flecked with white and almost white petal backs. Medium green, plain, variegated foliage, silver green reverse. Large
- ***PICOTEE PETTICOAT** #6994 11/10/88 (Wilson) Single/semidouble ruffled mauve two tone. Dark green, quilted, slightly ruffled, variegated with pink. Large
- ***PICTURE PERFECT** #7105 4/29/89 (Eyerdom) Semidouble/double fuchsia fringed pansy two tone with white to green edge. Dark green, wavy, glossy foliage, red reverse. Standard
- PILLOW TALK** (Blansit) Frilled pale pink and white semidouble to double pansy. Light green, slightly ruffled foliage. Standard
- ***PINK BUTTONNAIRE** #7052 1/17/89 (Eyerdom) Single pink, darker pink border, geneva edge. Light green, plain, glossy foliage. Standard
- ***PINK CAMISOLE** #6920 9/26/88 (Cox) Semidouble light pink pansy shape two tone. Medium green, lightly quilted, finely scalloped foliage. Large
- ***PINK CHERI** #7021 12/17/88 (Gross) Double fringed light pink two tone with darker eye. Dark green, pointed, serrated, longifolia foliage. Standard
- ***PINK HILL** #7027 11/29/88 (Tinari) Double wavy edged vivid pink. Dark forest green, lightly quilted, slightly spooned, glossy foliage, red reverse. Standard
- PINK POWDER** (Swift) Pink double. Very dark, red reverse foliage. Standard
- ***PINK ROSETTE** #68947/11/88 (L. Munk) Double fringed pink. Dark green plain foliage with slight red reverse. Large
- PINK SATIN** See ROB'S PINK SATIN
- PINK SQUIRT** See NESS' PINK SQUIRT
- PINK SWIRL** See DEEJAY'S PINK SWIRL
- PINK WHISPER** (Sorano) Large, very pale pink, semidouble to double star. Dark green and pink variegated foliage. Standard
- PINKY WINKY** See ROB'S PINKY WINKY
- PLAYTIME** (Pittman) White semidouble, pink edge. Medium plain foliage. Semiminature
- ***PLEASURE BENT** #7131 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double two tone fuchsia ruffled pansy. Black green, wavy, ruffled, glossy foliage, pink reverse. Large
- ***PLenty OF PEPPER** #7132 5/15/89 (Domiano) Semidouble red star. Medium green, pointed, glossy foliage. Large
- ****PLUM PUDDING** #4548 9/25/81 (Powers) Semidouble large lavender w/darker tips. Dark red reverse. Standard
- ***PLUM VELVET** #7142 6/6/89 (Lalanne) Single sticktight deep plum pansy. Dark green, pointed, quilted, red reverse. Standard
- POSITIVELY PASSION** (Sorano) Dark purple semidouble star. Dark green, pink and cream variegated foliage. Standard
- POSY** (Swift) Light pink, slightly fringed double. Dark green, red reverse foliage. Standard
- PRETTY CORINNE** See MARIE'S PRETTY CORINNE
- ****PRETTY DEBBIE** #4998 8/11/82 (Nadeau) Orchid two tone fringed single. Quilted variegated. Large
- ***PRETTY GIRL** #7086 2/10/89 (Pittman) Semidouble medium blue with geneva edge. Tommie Lou variegated, serrated girl foliage. Miniature
- ***PRIDE OF COLUMBUS** #7087 2/10/89 (Pittman) Double lavender with purple tips. Tommie Lou variegated plain foliage. Semiminature
- ***PRINCE OF DIXIE** #7062 1/20/89 (Burns) Single/semidouble magenta red, prominent yellow stamens. Very dark, serrated, glossy, quilted foliage, red reverse. Large
- PRINCESS** See PAPA'S PRINCESS
- PROMISE** See PASSION'S PROMISE

Q

QUILTING BEE (Stork) Large frilled lilac full double star, shading out to silvery lavender edges. Medium green quilted foliage. Standard

R

***RAGUSA SPECIAL** #7103 4/17/89 (Nadeau) Single pink two tone star. Dark green plain foliage. Standard

RAINMAKER (Blansit) Frilled white semidouble to double pansy, blue edge. Light green, slightly ruffled foliage. Standard

RAMBLIN PRINCE (Sorano) Dark blue double. Medium green compact trailing foliage. Semiminiature trailer

RAMBLIN SPRINGTIME (Sorano) Pale pink double, often tinted green. Trailing foliage. Semiminiature trailer

RAMBLIN STARLIGHT (Sorano) Small white double, medium blue center. Medium green foliage. Semiminiature trailer

RAMBLIN SUNSHINE (Sorano) Dark fuchsia double star. Medium green, cream and yellow variegated foliage. Trailer

RED PETTICOATS (Sorano) Fuchsia ruffled pompon type double. Dark green lightly wavy foliage. Standard

***RED SARONG** #7028 11/29/88 (Tinari) Double wine red. Forest green, plain, slightly quilted, slightly cupped up, heart-shaped foliage. Standard

RED SLEIGH (Sorano) Frilled dark fuchsia double. Medium green and white variegated foliage. Standard

***REDEEMER** #7002 11/10/88 (Elkin) Single ruffled plum purple star with blue veins, white edge. Medium green, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard

***REINDEER GAMES** #7133 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double ruffled white star with pink markings, slight green edge. Dark green, variegated, pointed, glossy foliage. Large

REWARD See **PASSION'S REWARD**

***RHAPSODIE® - ALICE** #6976 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single fringed white with lavender center and edges. Medium green, cupped, hairy, serrated, ruffled, heart-shaped to ovate foliage. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - ANGELICA** #6977 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single shiny light salmon pink. Medium green, hairy, pointed, glossy, ovate foliage. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - ANNIE** #6978 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single wavy light salmon pink. Dark, plain, glossy, round foliage. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - BARBARA** #6979 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single slightly ruffled dark violet blue. Medium green, hairy, slightly serrated, glossy, ovate foliage. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - CAROLYN** #6980 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single slightly wavy bright dark pink two tone with darker eye. Dark green, hairy, sometimes serrated, ovate foliage with purplish red reverse. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - DOLLY** #6981 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single fringed white with purplish blue edges. Medium green, hairy, plain, slightly glossy, heart-shaped to ovate foliage. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - FARRAH** #6982 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single slightly ruffled dark pink. Dark green, hairy, pointed, slightly serrated, glossy, ovate foliage, with purplish red foliage. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - IRENE** #6983 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Semidouble white and purplish blue multicolor. Medium green slightly serrated, ovate to round foliage. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - JENNIE** #6984 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single white with some mottled patches of light blue. Light green, slightly hairy, slightly serrated, slightly glossy, heart-shaped to round foliage. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - JULIANA** #6985 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single multicolor white and purplish blue with deeper eye and edges. Medium green, slightly hairy, plain, glossy, heart-shaped to round foliage. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - MEG** #6963 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Semidouble two tone pink with lighter center. Medium to dark green girl, wavy, serrated, glossy foliage. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - MONIQUE** #6986 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single lilac. Medium green, slightly hairy, plain, glossy, ovate to round foliage, purplish red reverse. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - NANCY** #6987 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single ruffled light pink. Dark green, slightly serrated, glossy, ovate to round foliage, touch of red on reverse. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - PAMELA** #6988 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single intense burgundy-purple. Medium green, hairy, plain, heart-shaped to round foliage. Large

***RHAPSODIE® - SABRINA** #6989 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single two tone pink with darker center and markings. Dark green, hairy, serrated, heart-shaped foliage with purplish red touches. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - SCARLET** #6990 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single bright purplish red. Medium green, hairy, slightly serrated, heart-shaped to ovate foliage. Standard

***RHAPSODIE® - SONJA** #6992 11/19/88 (Holtkamp) Single ruffled purple. Medium green, hairy, plain, slightly glossy, ovate to round foliage. Standard

RIDGE See **APACHE RIDGE**

RISEN STAR See **FREDETTE'S RISEN STAR**

***ROB'S ARTFUL DODGER** #7029 1/5/89 (Robinson) Double ruffled white to blush pink, lime green outer petals. Tommie Lou variegated, serrated, ovate foliage. Semiminiature

***ROB'S BLUE MOON** #7170 8/29/89 (Robinson) Semidouble medium blue star. Medium/dark green, pointed, serrated, quilted foliage, light red reverse. Semiminiature

***ROB'S COPPER CAT** #7030 1/5/89 (Robinson)

- Semidouble dusty pink, very dark green fringed edges. Dark, Tommie Lou variegated, red backed foliage. Semiminiature
- ***ROB'S EMBER GLOW** #7031 1/5/89 (Robinson) Semidouble medium pink two tone heavily tipped in dark rose, thin geneva edge. Tommie Lou variegated, pointed, medium to dark, serrated foliage. Semiminiature
- ***ROB'S LITTLE JOSEPHINE** #7032 1/5/89 (Robinson) Semidouble fringed deep pink, Very dark, Tommie Lou variegated, red backed foliage. Miniature
- ***ROB'S MAGNETIC FIELD** #7033 1/5/89 (Robinson) Double deep pink with dark blue center stripe chimera. Manageable dark green girl foliage, medium red reverse. Miniature
- ***ROB'S MISCHIEVOUS** #7034 1/5/89 (Robinson) Single fringed medium pink bell. Dark Tommie Lou variegated, pointed, serrated foliage, light red reverse. Miniature
- ***ROB'S PAL PAUL** #7171 8/29/89 (Robinson) Single white pansy. Variegated, medium green, pointed, strawberry, glossy foliage, white reverse. Miniature
- ***ROB'S PINK SATIN** #7172 8/29/89 (Robinson) Semidouble light satin pink. Crown variegated, medium green, pointed, serrated, heart-shaped foliage. Semiminiature
- ***ROB'S PINKY WINKY** #7173 8/29/89 (Robinson) Semidouble deep pink. Crown variegated when young, very dark green, pointed, glossy foliage, red reverse. Semiminiature
- ***ROB'S SANDSTORM** #7035 1/5/89 (Robinson) Double light blue fantasy with dark blue splashes. Tommie Lou variegated, very dark, pointed foliage, red reverse. Miniature
- ***ROB'S SILVER SPOOK** #7174 8/29/89 (Robinson) Semidouble light lavender-purple with occasional white mottling. Crown variegated, medium green, pointed foliage. Semiminiature
- ***ROB'S VANILLA PINK** #7175 8/29/89 (Robinson) Semidouble deep creamy rose-pink pansy. Crown variegated, medium/dark green, pointed, serrated, heart-shaped foliage. Semiminiature
- ***ROB'S WHIMSICAL** #7176 8/29/89 (Robinson) Double white with blue eye. Medium green, pointed, lightly serrated, quilted foliage. Semiminiature
- ***ROB'S WHOOPIE** #7036 1/5/89 (Robinson) Semidouble fringed deep mauve with dark purple fantasy spots. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, pointed, holly foliage. Semiminiature
- ****ROMA'S DELIGHT** #6902 8/22/88 (Nadeau) Single sticktight white with lavender side stripes chimera. Light green plain, slightly quilted foliage. Standard
- ROONIE** See ZACA-ROONIE
- ROSE QUARTZ** See OPTIMARA® - ROSE QUARTZ
- ***ROYAL CREST** #7003 11/10/88 (Elkin) Single dark two tone burgundy red star with dark red purple edge. Dark emerald green, plain, pointed, hairy foliage with reddish reverse. Standard
- ROYAL RICH** (Pittman) Bright royal purple semidouble. Medium green foliage. Semiminiature
- ***ROY'S BEAUTIFUL DREAMER** #7102 3/13/89 (Muster) Semidouble/double ruffled pink with purple fantasy. Dark green, pointed, quilted glossy foliage, red reverse. Standard
- ***RUBY CELEBRATION** #7004 11/10/88 (Elkin) Semidouble ruffled shaded fuchsia red star with white rolled edge. Medium green, plain, wavy, pointed foliage. Standard
- ***RUBY JUBILATION** #7005 11/10/88 (Elkin) Single ruffled ruby red star with white edge. Dark green, quilted, serrated edge foliage. Standard
- RUTH'S HALO** (Boone) Large frilled lavender/purple two-tone double. Medium green and cream variegated, pointed foliage. Standard
- S**
- (S. - abbreviation for Saintpaulia)
- S. BREVIPILOSA** (#S 10a) Soft purple flowers with darker centers. Blossoms are very short lived. Usually single-crowned plant with tightly bunched shiny, thin, small rounded leaves, which are light green with pale reverse. Miniature
- S. CONFUSA** (#S 16) Deep purple flowers, but not floriferous. Slightly quilted, slightly serrated, small, flexible, very smooth with leathery texture. Medium green, with almost white back.
- S. DIFFICILIS** (#S 15) Medium blue flowers, 5 to 7 per peduncle. Chartreuse color, long pointed leaves on long petioles, tendency to spoon. Usually single crown, but may sucker.
- S. DIPLOTRICHA PUNTER #0** (#S 12c) Pale lilac with bright yellow stamens, 7 blossoms per peduncle. Serrated, thick dark green foliage.
- S. DIPLOTRICHA PUNTER #6** (#S 12a) Pale lilac with bright yellow stamens. Small round lotus type leaf, sometimes spooned.
- S. DIPLOTRICHA PUNTER #7** (#S 12b) Blue-grey blossoms. Pointed, heart shaped, tailored foliage with light red reverse.
- S. GOETZEANA** (#S 10) Three or more tiny pale lilac hued flowers per peduncle. Leaves form tiny clumps of rosettes. Very weak rooted trailer (creeper).
- S. GRANDIFOLIA #237** (#S 7) Floriferous blue-violet flowers. Usually single crown, light green wafer thin leaves on lengthy pliable petioles. (This is the true species.)
- S. GRANDIFOLIA #299** (#S 7a) Deep blue-violet very floriferous plant. Flowers are darker than *grandifolia* #237. Usually single crown, crinkle leaf variant of true *grandifolia*. Large growing plant. Variant of *grandifolia* #237.
- S. GROTEI** (#S 17) Medium blue with darker eye. Thin large round medium green, serrated leaf, flexible petioles. Large trailer
- S. HOUSE OF AMANI** Almost always a single crown plant. It has never been identified as a true species. Medium lavender blue flowers that are very short lived with 5 to 7 per peduncle. Pointed dark foliage.

- S. INCONSPICUA (#S 1)** Currently believed to be extinct. Was a frail trailer with small blue-spotted white flowers atypical of other species.
- S. INTERMEDIA (#S 9)** Blue blossoms, 5 to 7 per peduncle. Small round olive green slightly serrated, has tendency to spoon. Velvety feeling leaves.
- S. IONANTHA (#S 5)** Clusters of blue-violet flowers, numerous in count. Dark green, glossy, quilted, serrated foliage. Leaves tend to cup upward.
- S. MAGUNGENSIS (#S 19)** Dark violet-blue flowers with darker eye, 2 to 4 per peduncle. Leaves are rounded, slightly cupped under. Trailer
- S. MAGUNGENSIS VAR. MINIMA (#S 19a)** Very tiny light purple flowers, 1 or 2 per peduncle. Leaves are smaller than *S. magungensis*, lightly serrated, thinner in texture, cupped down.
- S. MAGUNGENSIS VAR. OCCIDENTALIS (#S 19b)** Violet-blue flowers, two to five per cluster. Medium green, shiny, ovate leaves which readily root upon contact with the soil. Multiple-crowned trailer. Differing form of *S. magungensis*.
- S. NITIDA (#S 13)** Dark blue-purple blossoms. Shining deep green leaves. Multiple crown, small grower.
- S. ORBICULARIS (#S 14)** Small light lilac flowers with darker eye, clusters of 5 to 8 per peduncle. Round to heart shaped, thin, shiny leaves. May be grown single crown but does not sucker.
- S. ORBICULARIS PURPUREA (#S 14a)** Dark purple flowers. Round to heart shape, thin, shiny dark green leaves.
- S. PENDULA (#S 8)** Pale blue blossom, one per peduncle. Yellowish green, very hairy, round, serrated, heavy textured leaves. Medium size trailer
- S. PENDULA KIZARAE (#S 8A)** Lavender flowers. Round, light green leaves. Multiple crown trailer
- S. PUSILLA (#S 2)** Currently believed to be extinct. The smallest of the species with tiny flowers, mauve top petals and white lower petals above tiny purple-backed triangular leaves.
- S. RUPICOLA (#S 10b)** Medium blue flowers. Soft, shiny, medium green leaves, very soft and velvety to the touch. Grows multiple crowns.
- S. SHUMENSIS (#S 3)** Pale blue, almost white flowers with darker eye. Multiple crowned, bright green, strawberry type foliage. Small growing plant.
- S. SIGI FALLS** Never declared a true species. The best guess is that House of Amani and Sigi Falls are natural hybrids. Always multiple crowned. Large plant in 6" or 8" pot is very impressive. Leaves are thick and ovate and vary greatly in size. They exhibit differing degrees of color which is not a fault but an enhancement.
- S. TEITENSIS (#S 4)** Light blue-violet flowers which hide under the leaves. Usually grows upright and single crowned with dark green, shiny, pointed red-backed leaves. Small growing.
- S. TONGWENSIS (#S 6)** Copious quantities of soft blue flowers. Usually single crown and upright,
- rarely suckers.
- S. VELUTINA (#S 11)** Medium violet with darker eye, sometimes with white tips. Velvety texture, very dark green, hairy, serrated edge, may be cupped either up or down.
- SABRINA** See RHAPSODIE® - SABRINA
- SAINT LOUIS** See OPTIMARA® - SAINT LOUIS
- SAN FRANCISCO** See OPTIMARA® - SAN FRANCISCO
- SANDSTORM** See ROB'S SANDSTORM
- *SAPPHIRE HALO #7066 2/6/89 (Boone)** Semidouble deep blue violet pansy. Variegated, medium green, plain foliage. Standard
- SASHAH** See MAAS' SASHAH
- SASSY HALO (Boone)** Maroon-red semidouble to double. Green and cream variegated foliage. Standard
- SATIN RUFFLES** See NESS' SATIN RUFFLES
- *SAVANNAH #7147 7/14/89 (Elkin)** Single wavy pink star chimera, dark pink center stripe. Medium green, wavy, pointed foliage. Standard
- SCARLET** See RHAPSODIE® - SCARLET
- SCORPIO** See OPTIMARA® - SCORPIO
- SECRET** See APACHE SECRET
- *SEDONA #7073 2/6/89 (Stork)** Semidouble wavy red stars. Dark green, plain foliage. Large
- *SEQUEL #7006 11/10/88 (Elkin)** Semidouble bright pink star with red speckles and bands, pink edge. Emerald green, plain, pointed, serrated edge foliage. Standard
- *SHAINA ANNE #7007 11/10/88 (Elkin)** Double white star with blue edge. Dark green, plain, pointed, variegated foliage. Standard
- SHANNON (Fredette)** Royal blue semidoubles, edged in green. Ruffled variegated foliage. Standard
- SHANNON PAUL** See MARIE'S SHANNON PAUL
- *SHAWNA #7053 1/17/89 (Eyerdam)** Double medium blue with wide white border. Dark green, pointed, plain foliage, red reverse. Standard
- SHENANDOAH** See OPTIMARA® - SHENANDOAH
- *SHERYL'S CHELSEA LOVE #7092 2/25/89 (Williams)** Semidouble/double light pink slightly wavy blossoms. Dark green, wavy foliage with red reverse. Large
- *SHIRLEY'S MISSY FANTASY #6903 8/22/88 (Nadeau)** Single medium fuchsia fantasy with purple splashes on petals. Medium green plain, pointed foliage. Miniature
- SHOCKWAVE (Sorano)** Fuchsia double, hinted with rose and orchid tones, white edge. Medium green foliage. Standard
- SILVER SPOOK** See ROB'S SILVER SPOOK
- *SKYLARK #7008 11/10/88 (Elkin)** Double ruffled rosy pink star with white edge. Emerald green, plain, pointed, serrated edge foliage. Standard
- SLASHED WONDER** See DEEJAY'S SLASHED WONDER
- *SLEEPER #7134 5/15/89 (Domiano)** Semidouble deep pink two tone pansy. Black green, plain,

- glossy foliage, pink reverse. Large
- SMOKE SIGNALS** (Stork) Frilled deep lavender full double. Dark green, slightly wavy foliage. Large
- ***SNOW CAP** #7022 12/17/88 (Gross) Semidouble/ double ruffled white and lavender multicolor with dark lavender edge. Medium green, serrated, lightly quilted, glossy foliage. Standard
- SNOW GIRL** (Pittman) White double. Girl foliage. Miniature
- ***SNOW WHITE TRAIL** #7076 2/9/89 (Hart) Double white with green buds. Light green, pointed, heart-shaped foliage. Semiminiature trailer
- SNOWY DAZE** See **NESS' SNOWY DAZE**
- SNUGGLES ANGEL** (Sorano) Lightly ruffled small white semidouble, dark pink edge. Medium green and white wavy foliage. Miniature
- SNUGGLES INNOCENCE** (Sorano) White double, fuchsia blush in center. Medium green and white variegated foliage. Semiminiature
- SONGBIRD** (Fredette) Bright pink pansies. Tailored variegated foliage. Standard
- SONJA** See **RHAPSODIE® - SONJA**
- ***SOUTH SHORE ROSE** #7023 12/17/88 (Gross) Full double ruffled pink two tone with occasional rose shading. Medium green, pointed, quilted longifolia foliage. Standard
- SPACEDUST** (Sorano) Dark blue semidouble splashed with pink. Dark green foliage. Standard
- ****SPECKLED PLUM** #2901 12/10/79 (Bollar) Double fringed medium orchid purple splashes. Scalloped quilted. Standard
- SPIFFY PINK** (Swift) Pink fringed double. Dark, red reverse foliage. Standard
- SPIRIT** See **APACHE SPIRIT**
- SPRING** See **APACHE SPRING**
- ***SPRING BOUQUET** #7187 9/8/89 (Cassidy) Semidouble wavy medium pink. Medium green pointed foliage. Standard
- STAR SEARCH** (Fredette) Pink stars, cerise spatter, deeper edge. Variegated tailored foliage. Standard
- ***STOLEN DREAM** #7040 1/9/89 (Croteau) Semidouble dark blue fantasy splashed with pink spots. Medium green quilted foliage. Large
- STRAWBERRY MOON** (Sorano) Pinkish fuchsia semidouble star, some darker veining with light to dark wine petal tips and white edge. Medium green foliage. Standard
- ***STUART** #7009 11/10/88 (Elkin) Double light purple star bell (does not open fully). Dark green, plain, pointed foliage with reddish reverse. Standard
- SUCH-A-FLIRT** (Sorano) Large white semidouble to double star. Highly variable with pink and/or blue fantasy markings. Medium green foliage. Standard
- ***SUGAR BEAR BLUES** #7183 9/5/89 (Ness) Semidouble/double medium blue. Medium green pointed, plain foliage, red reverse. Semiminiature
- ***SUGAR BEAR PINK** #7184 9/5/89 (Ness) Semidouble light pink pansy. Medium green quilted,
- heart-shaped foliage, red reverse. Semiminiature
- ***SUGAR CANDY** #7059 1/18/89 (Bryant) Semi-double light pink two tone ruffled star. Dark green, mosaic rose variegation, pointed, quilted, scalloped foliage, rose reverse. Large
- SUGAR FROST** (Swift) Large peachy pink, slightly frilled double. Very dark, red reverse foliage. Standard
- SUMMER** See **APACHE SUMMER**
- ****SUM PUMPKIN** #6630 5/13/87 (Haywood) Semidouble pink with deep each edge ruffled star. Medium green and white variegated, plain, pointed foliage. Semiminiature
- SUNCOAST LAVENDER MAGIC** (Williams) Ruffled two-tone lavender semidouble pansy. Variegated foliage. Standard
- SUNCOAST RUFFLED MAGIC** (Williams) Large ruffled two-tone pink and red-pink double star. Medium green ruffled foliage. Standard
- SUNDANCE** (Sorano) Large single sticktight fuchsia star. Dark green foliage. Standard
- ***SUNDOWN TRAIL** #7190 9/25/89 (Pittman) Double dark blue. Dark green plain foliage, dark green reverse. Semiminiature trailer
- SUNSET ROSE** (Fredette) Huge bright pink doubles. Very dark tailored variegated foliage, rose edges. Standard
- ***SWEET AMY SUE** #6896 7/13/88 (Harris) Double pale pink with blue fantasy and green edges. Medium green quilted foliage with light green leaf backs. Semiminiature trailer
- ****SWEET MAMA** #6627 5/13/87 (Cox) Single white sticktight pansy shape. Deep green plain quilted. Large
- SWING ALONG** (Pittman) Rosy pink double. Dark green foliage. Semiminiature

T

- ***TAFFY JOY** #7088 2/10/89 (Pittman) Double rose. Dark tailored foliage, red reverse. Semiminiature
- TAURUS** See **OPTIMARA® - TAURUS**
- ***TEEN DREAM** #7089 2/10/89 (Pittman) Double two tone pink. Tommie Lou variegated plain foliage. Semiminiature
- TEEN TRAIL** (Pittman) Bright pink double. Medium green trailing foliage. Semiminiature trailer
- ***TEMPEST SKY** #7054 1/17/89 (Eyerdam) Double light pink with darker orchid border, geneva edge. Medium green, pointed, quilted, glossy foliage. Standard
- ***TIDEWATER'S SWEETHEART** #7139 5/26/89 (Carter) Semidouble white with blue side stripes on petal edges. Medium green, pointed, plain foliage. Semiminiature
- ****TIGER LILY** #6419 11/6/87 (Egenites) Semidouble coral-pink star. Dark plain foliage, light reverse with rosy overlay. Standard
- ***TIGER TRAIL** #6897 7/13/88 (Harris) Double bright fuchsia with pale pink petal backs. Variegated, quilted, glossy foliage. Standard trailer
- TIL-TIL** See **ZACA'S TIL-TIL**
- ***TIMID TEEN** #7090 2/10/89 (Pittman) Semidouble bright pink. Medium green plain foliage.

Miniature

TIPPED HONEY (Pittman) Ruby red double, dogwood tip. Dark red reverse foliage. Semiminiature

TOMAHAWK (Stork) Vibrant red fluted semi-double to double. Dark tailored foliage. Large

***TOOCH** #7074 2/6/89 (Stork) Double light lavender-pink wavy stars with purple fantasy. Medium green, quilted foliage. Large

TOPSY (Pittman) Bright rose semidouble. Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Semiminiature

TOUCH OF VELVET (Wilson) Rose single pansies, darker raspberry upper petals, light pink ruffled edges. Dark green cupped frilled foliage, red reverse. Standard

TOWN FLIRT (Sorano) Pinkish lavender semi-double, dark orchid fantasy splashes. Medium green foliage. Semiminiature

***TRAILING WILLIAM** #7077 2/9/89 (Hart) Double white with blush-pink overlay, darker eye. Medium green, pointed, glossy, plain foliage. Semiminiature trailer

TREASURE See **APACHE TREASURE**

TRINIDAD (Fredette) Large ruffled bright pink semidouble stars. Tailored variegated foliage. Standard

****TURTLE DOVE** #1565 11/1/65 (West) Light pink single green and white ruffled edge. Dark foliage. Large

V

VANILLA PINK See **ROB'S VANILLA PINK**

VELVET PANSIES (Fredette) Raspberry two tone pansies, deeper tips. Dark tailored foliage. Standard

***VENUS BUTTERFLY** #7135 5/15/89 (Domiano) Semidouble watermelon red two tone star. Very dark green, pointed, glossy foliage with red reverse. Large

****VERA IRENE** #68815/14/88 (Loder) Double coral pink two tone with deep coral petal tips. Dark green quilted foliage with dark red reverse. Standard

VIKING BABE See **NESS' VIKING BABE**

VIKING KING See **NESS' VIKING KING**

VIKING MAIDEN See **NESS' VIKING MAIDEN**

***VIOLET MEDLEY** #7024 12/17/88 (Gross) Double white and lavender multicolor. Medium green, serrated, quilted foliage. Standard

VIOLET SAPPHIRE See **OPTIMARA-VIOLET SAPPHIRE**

VIRGINIA See **OPTIMARA®-VIRGINIA**

VIRGO See **OPTIMARA® - VIRGO**

W

***WEST TRAIL** #7191 9/25/89 (Pittman) Double bright pink. Medium green pointed, plain foliage. Miniature trailer

WEST VIRGINIA See **OPTIMARA® - WEST VIRGINIA**

WHEEZY BLUE See **NESS' WHEEZY BLUES**

WHIMSICAL See **ROB'S WHIMSICAL**

WHITE RUFFLES (Pittman) Ruffled white semi-

double. Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Semiminiature

WHOOPIE See **ROB'S WHOOPIE**

***WICHITA BABY** #7091 2/10/89 (Pittman) Double blue. Tommie Lou variegated plain foliage. Miniature

WINNING WAYS (Blansit) Hot pink and white semidouble pansy. Quilted foliage. Standard

WINTER WINE (Fredette) Burgundy wine semidoubles. Blonde highly variegated tailored foliage. Standard

Y

****YARROWDAWN** #68825/14/88 (Loder) Double ruffled pale green, lavender and white multicolor. Variegated dark green and yellow quilted wavy foliage. Standard

***YOU OLD SMOOTHIE** #71365/15/89 (Domiano) Double dark blue star, may have lavender streaking. Dark green, variegated, plain, glossy foliage. Large

***YOUNG MAN'S FANCY** #7137 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double light blue pansy, darker blue edge. Medium green, pointed, glossy foliage. Large

***YURI** #7055 1/17/89 (Eyerdom) Double medium pink with geneva edge. Light green, wavy, glossy foliage. Standard

Z

***ZACA-LAND** #6932 11/16/88 (Stephens) Semidouble white with bright blue splashed edges. Medium green, quilted, slightly serrated foliage. Standard

***ZACA-ROONIE** #6933 11/16/88 (Stephens) Single to semidouble chimera star, blue/purple fantasy side stripes with white center stripe. Medium green, quilted, ovate, slightly Standard

***ZACA'S CHOICE** #6934 11/16/88 (Stephens) Semidouble ruffled royal blue blossom. Medium green and white variegated, quilted, pointed, slightly serrated foliage. Standard

***ZACA'S TIL-TIL** #6935 11/16/88 (Stephens) Single to semidouble pale pink star. Medium green, quilted, spooned, serrated foliage. Standard

***ZACA'S ZEE** #6936 11/16/88 (Stephens) Semidouble deep blue star. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage, light green reverse. Standard

ZEE See **ZACA'S ZEE**

***ZEST FOR LOVE** #7138 5/15/89 (Domiano) Double purple star. Medium green, pointed, glossy, pink reverse. Large

The 1989 Mini & Semimini Supplement is available now from the AVSA Office.

Please send SASE.

AVSA Commercials

A Closer Look

David Buttram
P. O. Box 193
Independence, MO 64051



Violets Galore of Georgia

My visit with Jim Wright of Violets Galore of Georgia began in a hotel lobby in north Atlanta. Jim had offered to pick me up at the hotel, take me to his home and then transport me across town to the airport that afternoon.

The fall morning air was crisp and the sun was shining brightly as we rode in Jim's van toward the Wright home near Lithonia, a suburb of Atlanta. We talked of life and its ups and downs; its pleasures and pains. During moments like we shared, friendships are established — lasting friendships.

Soon we arrived at the Wright's home situated among tall pines near the shore of Norris Lake. What a beautiful, peaceful site for a home. I think "serene" best describes the setting.

We joined Jim's wife, Jean, at a table where I had spread out by recorder and papers. Jim's venture into the wondrous field of African violets began when he wandered into the gardening section of a Woolworth's store. "They had some African violets next to dead, for 50¢ a piece. I bought some to see what I could do with them. That piqued my interest. I got those revived and checked around and got information on how to raise violets."

Jim remembers those early experiences in the 1960s during which he searched libraries and bookstores for more information. In a Sunset Book on African violets he found the name and address of The African Violet Society of America. He joined and from the African Violet Magazine learned of a club in Atlanta. He promptly called the president of the affiliate who told him, "It's nice to know that you have an interest in African violets, but our club is for ladies only."

At that time there was only one African violet club in the state of Georgia. So Jim was without a club to join. However, the president told Jim that another man had called recently and was also interested in African violets. His name was Lloyd Lynn MacArthur. Another grower, Miriam Green, had applied for membership, but there were "no openings for membership available at the time."

The three decided to start their own club. They advertised in the newspaper and the Afri-



Jim and Jean Wright of Violets Galore of Georgia, home of the famous "Super Soil Substance."

can Violet Club of Greater Atlanta was underway.

Early on in his involvement with African violets, Jim had two areas of interest: hybridizing and soil mixes. Through the help of Grace Gillespie, former chairman of the Boyce Edens Fund, Jim was able to buy a collection of AVMs dating back to the 1950s.

"I read a lot and found a lot of contradictions in the articles. You have to learn to sift the wheat from the chaff. The articles did give me quite an education in soil mixes as well as hybridizing." Jim learned that one of the most important factors in raising quality African violets is the proper pH.

"We used commercial mixes, but were experiencing crown rot." Jim recounts those early days: "We experimented. Some said, 'Use egg shells,' so we saved all the egg shells. Then someone said, 'Use oyster shells.' We used sheep manure, cow manure — the whole nine yards. Still the results were not satisfactory.

"I began putting some ingredients together such as super-phosphate, green sand and colloidal

clays. I checked around about organic substances that wouldn't burn the plants. The final result was a mixture of approximately 27 ingredients using various types of lime and other necessary trace elements. Thirteen major changes were made before we were satisfied. The state lab tested it and reported back the pH was fine and the mix was 'great for greenhouse growing.' This mixture is called Super Soil Substance and when used according to directions will add needed nutrients to a soilless mix plus bring the pH to a desirable 6.8."

The pressure from area growers resulted in the decision to sell Super Soil Substance. In Jim's words: "In the 1970s we tried to help a new grower, Bill Barnett. He came to our house and we helped him mix the soil. That year he won Queen of Show, AVSA Collection and just about everything else. When people found out his secret, they asked us for soil. But mixing soil is a dirty, backbreaking job so I told them they could come to our house and mix it themselves.

"It got to the point where people put a lot of



Some of the Wrights' beautiful plants.

pressure on us. Bill suggested that we mix up the ingredients and let people add peat moss, vermiculite and perlite themselves. That's how Super Soil Substance was born."

Over the years Jim has found Sunshine peat moss to be the best and most consistent for preparing his soil mix. The Wrights carry a large inventory of Sunshine peat moss and other growing supplies in their home which was designed and built five years ago to accommodate their hobby/business.

Jim had an interest in hybridizing that resulted in several excellent varieties. Known as the "Do Series," they were introduced by Travis' Violets and Violets of Atlanta. When I asked the origin of the name, Jim and Jean laughed. Jim said, "I am sorry you asked that, Dave. It is a nickname that a next door neighbor in Decatur gave me years ago. She called me 'Do Do Dad' because I was always doing something. That's true. I'm always doing something — putting around the house." Jean and the children liked the name so Do has stuck.

One cultivar, 'Do's Jean,' won Second Best Seedling at the St. Louis Convention in 1977. 'Do's Judy Lynn' and 'Do's Janet Lee' were named after the Wright's two daughters and were popular releases.

Due to space limitations, Jim has temporarily quit hybridizing. Jim explains, "When we had our greenhouse operation we would come into our prime selling season and the greenhouse was full of seedlings with no space for saleable plants."

Retirement comes in about 70 weeks for Jim and he hopes to resume hybridizing. He is especially excited about Nolan Blansit's yellow African violets and is convinced that with the breakthrough "there will be some colors that will blow your mind."

Jim and Jean have been married 38 years and have four grown children — two daughters and twin boys. All live in the greater Atlanta area. This love-filled marriage has been in jeopardy only once. According to Jim that was when he went to his bank to take a second mortgage to build a greenhouse. At the time he was about to lose his job with a nationally known wholesale food distributor, due to consolidation and being in his 40s, he was not likely to get a comparable job.

After presenting a well-prepared proposal

to the banker, he got the money. With his sons' help, Jim built the greenhouse, learning about heating, cooling, shade cloth as they went along.

Wholesaling African violets to florists and department stores came easy for an experienced salesman like Jim.

"Miss Jean would not help in any way; she was quick to criticize, until, UNTIL we paid off that four-year loan in less than two years. Then, that's when Miss Jean began to get interested. From that point on I became the helper and she became the plant manager. We did a total turnaround — Now, I help her."

Jean who had been seated with us saying very little, now became involved in the interview. She laughed at Jim's account of the four-year debt. She laughed at her own change of heart about African violets. There is now a division of labor that allows Jean to buy, grow, groom, market and merchandise. Jim has been relegated to mixing the soil, building plant stands, spraying and other physical labor.

No longer the owners of a greenhouse, the Wrights are still able to produce enough plants from their home to continue to sell wholesale and at 14 mall shows and other shows throughout Georgia each year. They do not sell plants by mail.

Occasionally, people call or visit the home. This is not always convenient, as Jim explains: "Miss Jean is an insomniac and gets her best sleep between 4:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. I was preparing to leave for work one morning when, at 8 o'clock, the door bell rang and three people were standing on the porch. 'We're here to see your violets. We've been looking for your house for two days and a postman down the road finally directed us here.' By that time, Miss Jean walked in — groggy and wearing her housecoat. Her words could not be printed, but I took them to the basement and showed them our plants and tried to be hospitable.

"Because we are commercial members of The African Violet Society of America and Dixie African Violet Society, people assume that we are open to the public."

The Wrights have aroused the suspicion of neighbors who thought pot was being grown in the basement. The fluorescent light emanating from the basement windows and growing supplies continually going into the basement have

raised a few eyebrows.

Jim and Jean are a close couple and plan to grow and sell plants as long as "our health holds up. We work as a team. We hope to expand sales of Super Soil Substance." They also plan to stay active commercial members of AVSA and DAVS of which Jim is the Commercial Activities Chairman.

After a tasty snack, I was led to the basement where thousands of African violets were growing on lighted benches. Jean doesn't like to disbud so the growing area was ablaze with color. Each bench has a foam rubber mat called Rebond carpet pad which Jim reports, "is actually composed of tiny pieces of foam rubber which have been 'rebonded' into a continuous pad. It's the cheapest of the carpet pads." The foam rubber pad feeds and waters by capillary action and provides needed humidity.

The pads last six to seven years and are washed every six months to remove algae and fertilizer salts that build up. Jim and Jean constant feed with Peters 20-20-20 at a rate of 1/8 teaspoon per gallon of water.

The combined bench space is over 1,000 square feet with 190 four-foot fluorescent tubes which are on 13 hours a day.

Jim reports that the fluorescent four-foot fixtures found in many discount stores today are designed for energy efficiency, making them less efficient in producing light for optimum plant growth. The difference is in the ballasts. The "cheapie" ballasts are only about 6" long as compared to the 8" to 10" lengths of more expensive fixtures. The former produce about 30% less light than the latter.

After a picture-taking session, it was off to the airport. My visits always seem too brief, but this had been a long and sometimes difficult trip. Jim was kind enough to drive me to the airport which allowed us an additional 45 minutes of conversation.

Thank you Jim and Jean Wright for your hospitality and considerations.

Start off 1990
by
"Catching the New England Spirit"

"Hands-On" Design For Boston 1990

Hugh Mackey
Woodstock, GA

We have a saying in the South, "in order to get to heaven, you have to take a covered dish and go through Atlanta." New Englanders now have a saying, "in order to 'Catch the New England Spirit' you have to attend the 'Hands-on design workshop.'"

Thanks to you and your continued interest in design, AVSA will be presenting their fifth consecutive hands-on design workshop.

Each year as we travel to the different convention locales, the availability of plant materials varies — thus creating a challenging experience of each in attendance. Our hats are off to the many local residents who will be gathering and sharing this unique plant material.

Again this year, tables will be provided outside the showroom to display the fabulous results of the design workshop.

A basic design kit will be available. The cost for the kit is \$5.00 and should be purchased when registering for the convention.

This kit will have a container and needle-point holders, floral clay, as well as other "goodies." So, don't forget to check the appropriate box indicating you wish to purchase a design kit.

You may want to bring some type of cutting device, scissors or shears — for cutting thick or woody materials.

Please leave your knife at home, since we wouldn't want anyone getting injured; and should you be traveling to the convention by air, with carry-on baggage, the metal detector will surely get you and we don't want this presenting a problem for you. Believe me, I've been caught with a glue gun in my carry-on baggage and security really gives you that look.

Our devoted panel of experienced designers will gladly assist you with "Hands-On the New England Way," and you are bound to "Catch the New England Spirit."

A Family Portrait

Geogene Albrecht
101 Oak Heights Drive
Oakdale, PA 15701



It is indeed a pleasure to share informative thoughts and helpful hints about my favorite plant family, Gesneriaceae. This column will feature the most beautiful and popular relatives of the saintpaulia. You may recognize my name from other publications because writing is one way of expressing myself when there is no local club to join.

Personal remarks are my way of introducing myself and they will be limited to this issue. I've grown gesneriads since 1974. Most of my time is devoted to horticultural endeavors although my home and garden are top priority. Growing miniature saintpaulias and siningias had great therapeutic value while raising my family. I'm a typical "floriholic" homemaker able to grow more plants per square foot than almost anyone. My gesneriads have neighbors inside and out, namely orchids, begonias, ferns, terrariums, roses, irises and dahlias. There must still be ample time to do floral arrangements, grow, show, read, write, illustrate and photograph, as well as attend functions for most of the plants mentioned above.

My home is about 25 miles from Pittsburgh, PA, a marvelous city that operates a thirteen-room Victorian glass house called Phipps Conservatory. My volunteer time here is devoted to being a docent (tour-guide) and rendering illustrations. There are three major floral shows each year, contact me if you wish more information. There is an admission fee.

The best inspiration comes from growers willing to share their experiences. Won't you share ideas and helpful hints about all the gesneriads? Most of you have clever innovations that would help someone. If you write to me and expect an answer, please send a stamped, self-addressed postal card. Remember, don't send questions to me; they go to Jim

Smith, our "Question Box" columnist.

Achimenes: These scaly rhizome plants produce fantastic hanging baskets when summered outside in a shady spot. Their nodding, funnel-shaped blooms start about July and will continue until October. During winter they sleep in their baskets while hanging in a cool garage. Mark all dormant gesneriads with a bright label, colored stickers or tape. That way they will not be discarded. *Achimenes* have two basic growth habits although they are somewhat alike. *Achimenes 'Milton'*, a red blooming, vigorous grower has the habit of growing straight up and if pinched will send new plants from the base instead of from the lowest leaf axils. This growth habit reminds me of the stems on a fuchsia. The other growth habit is much more compact and easier to pinch back. One long-time favorite is *A. 'Purple King'* with huge flowers in profusion. If a dozen rhizomes are planted in a ten-inch basket it will easily reach three feet in one growing season. Mine are kept in the same soil for two seasons because the soil can be rejuvenated with topdressing fresh Osmocote timed-release fertilizer into the soil next spring. *A. 'Desiree'* has double red flowers on dark foliage. Plants having double bloom are given a little extra fertilizer because they must produce more.

Hanging baskets are ideal places to use the new polymer crystals which store water and then release it when the growing medium is dry. These are available at most garden centers. Remember to turn hanging baskets at least once a week to keep growth even.

Episcia: These have to be one of the most elegant foliage plants. The trailing growth habit produces many stolons that will root to the growing medium. The wide range of foliage color in today's hybrids is remarkable consider-

ing there were only ten species in the genus. *E. 'Moss Agate'* has been the easiest one for me to grow. Hybrids with iridescent rose-colored foliage like Blansit's *E. 'Country Clown'*, make handsome specimens in a humid atmosphere. If these plants produce too many stolons, remove all but a few because they may rob the plant of energy causing lower leaves to yellow.

Episcias have very fine root systems and must not be allowed to dry. They require 12 hours of illumination about eight inches from the light tubes. They are wonderful in a greenhouse if the temperature can be kept above 60 degrees at all times. Mixing the rose colored leaves with greens like *E. 'Faded Jade'* in a large aquarium or terrarium will give a fine display. If I had to choose a favorite it would probably be *E. lilacina 'Selby's Best'* with those bright green, velvety leaves and the two-inch lavender-blue flowers.

The most challenging are *E. 'Cleopatra'* and *'Pink Brocade'* with the very ornate pink, light green and white foliage. Many people think that these are the same plants. *E. 'Toy Silver'* is a small grower ideal for planting in dish gardens or plantscapes.

Sinningia: We certainly have a choice of size: large, medium, small and micro. In commerce they are certainly the most successful gesneriad after saintpaulia. The *S. speciosa* hybrids were grown in Europe years before saintpaulias came on the scene. These gloxinias are still very popular but they tend to grow leggy unless light is intense. Greenhouse growers keep them low-growing by treating them with a growth regulator. Mine are summered outside with the achimenes but when the blooms open they are brought inside so that the insects, especially the thrips, don't invade. Old-time favorites are *S. 'Hollywood'*, a light violet, *'Blanche de Meru'*, a white with red throat, and *'Emperor Frederick'*, a red with white border. Another one that stays rather compact is *S. 'Waterloo'* forming tight masses of small red blooms.

The next size down are compact hybrids growing about 10 inches in diameter. Ted Bona and Lyndon Lyon have produced many. Bona's *S. 'Marty Mines'* is a lovely pink and *S. 'Florence K.'* is a rosey red. Lyon's extra large double blooms may need some inconspicuous support on varieties like *S. 'Double White Swan'* and

'Pink Dandy.' I like the *'Strawberry Sundae'* variety, too. Henry's *S. 'Georgia Sunset'* has tubular flowers in lavender, salmon-pink and purple. Wow!

Sinningias under five inches are categorized as miniature. They are perfect companion plants for saintpaulia in a light garden. Miniatures grow best in a container, so, the high, clear plastic domes are placed on standard plastic 11" x 22" trays. Individual plants then rest on a layer of vermiculite. Tuberous plants generally are not heavy feeders. Overfertilizing may cause fertilizer salts to build up in the growing medium. This will damage the roots and then the tuber is subject to rot. The present "star" of this size is *S. 'Cherry Chips'* and her hybrids like the beautiful *'Cherry Doll.'* Their indescribably delicious pink-red blooms have white throats with lines and dots.

S. 'Dollbaby' is one of the easiest to grow inside or out of a container. Wojcik's *'Glinda'* is a very floriferous lavender with a darker throat. *S. 'Freckles'* is a must-have sporting light purple and white flowers with many dark spots. *S. 'Mercury'* from Wojcik is robust growing and extremely generous with those fuchsia/red blooms.

Last and truly least, we have the micro sinningias growing from one-half inch to three inches in diameter. Enclosed growing is a must and wise growers will collect rainwater or find spring water to moisten the growing medium. The small containers may need only a few drops of water. Avoid fertilizer with a high nitrogen number in the formula to stop excessive crown growth. It's hard to remove so many growths when the plant is in a tiny container. The tubers will grow large over the years. Dividing tubers into sections has never given me a plant with a good amount of foliage. When they are entered in shows, measure the diameter to be sure that it is an acceptable size under three inches. I recommend *S. pusilla*, a pale lavender, *'White Sprite'*, *'Snowflake'*, and *'Star Eyes.'* These are great to grow in a terrarium if planted in clusters of odd numbers.

Attention commercial growers selling gesneriads other than saintpaulia: Sources will be published in this column. You are welcome to send me a list of plants that you expect to sell in the coming year. ☺

Yellow Fever Continues

Dr. Jeff Smith
1359 Dorchester
Norman, OK 73069

I first became "touched" by yellow fever while researching my article on African violet pigments (Smith, 1988). As mentioned there, yellow had been achieved in other species by selective breeding, such as the extension of a yellow lip on snapdragons to color the whole flower yellow. I also speculated that yellow could be achieved by a slight modification of the anthocyanin pigments to other related pigments. Imagine my joy when I received a phone call from Nolan Blansit a few months later and discovered that he had already achieved a yellow violet by combining both possibilities.

Nolan started his path to yellow by noticing a plant that had a small amount of yellow in the center. This mutation may not be a unique occurrence. If you pull the petals off some varieties, especially pinks, you can often find a thin band of pale yellow at the very base of the petals. Nolan's breeding has worked to extend this yellow over the whole flower, similar to what was done with snapdragons.

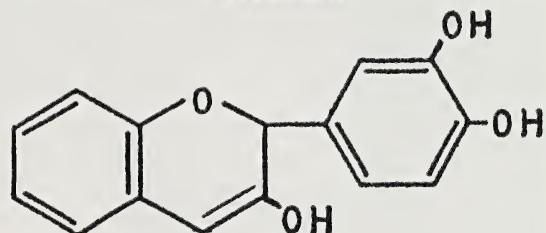
Nolan contacted me because he had heard that I was working on a research project involving a chemical analysis of African violet pigments. I have been attempting to categorize the different colors and shades into several classes of anthocyanins. The results of this study are incomplete and will be described in full at a later date. Nolan asked if I could examine his yellows and determine if they were anthocyanins or if they contained a different pigment. I readily agreed and had the results in a few days.

Anthocyanins belong to a large group of plant compounds collectively called the flavonoids. These chemicals are found almost universally in plants and their functions are variable. Anthocyanins are one of the best known flavonoids because of their role in the pink to blue colors in flowers and other plant parts. A very closely related flavonoid to the anthocyanins is the flavonols. The difference between the two groups is illustrated in figure 1. Notice that they are essentially identical except for the oxygen difference on the middle

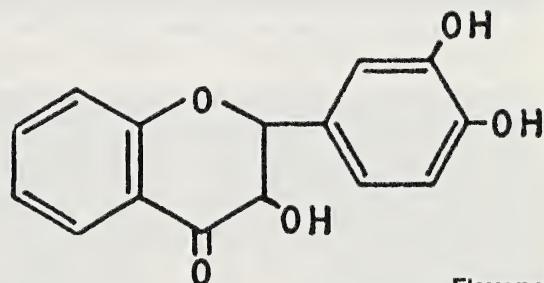
ring. This small difference, however, is enough to make them very different in their chemistry and visible color.

One quick test to determine which compound is present is to expose the plant part or extracted pigment to ammonia fumes. All an-

FIGURE 1.



Anthocyanin



Flavonol

thocyanins will turn dark blue in ammonia fumes, but flavonols will become bright yellow (Robinson, 1975). Based on this and other tests, I have concluded that yellow African violets contain flavonols and not anthocyanins. To my knowledge, this is the first reported occurrence of flavonols in African violets.

At least two of the plants tested contained both anthocyanins and flavonols. In one of them, the pink anthocyanin and yellow flavonol formed separate color regions, but where the two pigments overlapped, the visible color was orange. To me, this plant predicts the possible development of many new and exciting color possibilities in African violets, such as true oranges and reds.

Studies of the synthesis of flavonoids in plants indicate that their production is a step by step process requiring many different enzymes. If a plant is unable to manufacture an enzyme, the pigment production process can proceed to that step, but no further. The loss of an enzyme is typically a mutation inherited as a recessive trait. In order for the trait to be expressed (the appearance of the new color), the plant would have to inherit the fault from both parents.

A suggested synthesis pathway for flavonols and anthocyanins is shown in figure 2. Notice that in order to make anthocyanins, the plant must *first* manufacture flavonols, then *convert* them into anthocyanins. I hypothesize that yellow African violets are the result of the loss of the enzyme needed to convert flavonols into anthocyanins. The flavonols accumulate in the petals instead of anthocyanins and the resulting color is yellow. This synthesis pathway would be analogous to running bases in baseball. You can't get to home (the anthocyanins) until you first cross third base (the flavonols). If the batter only hits triples instead of home runs, then they never get past third base.

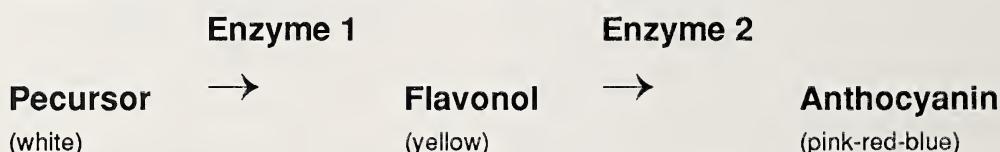
In many species of plants, the failure to complete the anthocyanin synthesis would re-

Figure 2 also shows that white flowers are the result of a failure to make either pigment. The enzyme failure in whites is at an earlier step or enzyme in the pathway than that for yellow. In our baseball analogy, the batter struck out and never made it on base at all. The white flowers I have tested do not have either flavonols or anthocyanins. The white color is primarily due to the reflection of light by the petal surfaces (Strickland, 1974). Dried white African violet flowers are known to lose their color quickly. Since they do not contain a "white" pigment, drying likely destroys the cell surface's ability to reflect light and the white color fades away.

I have long been fascinated by the range of colors produced by African violets and my research has been, in part, to try to understand how so many colors and shades are possible. The introduction of a new pigment, even if it is closely related to the anthocyanins, will have a major impact on the future of African violets. Yellow fever may soon be replaced by the rainbow colors of dreams.

Acknowledgements — The support of the Boyce Edens Research Fund is gratefully acknowledged.

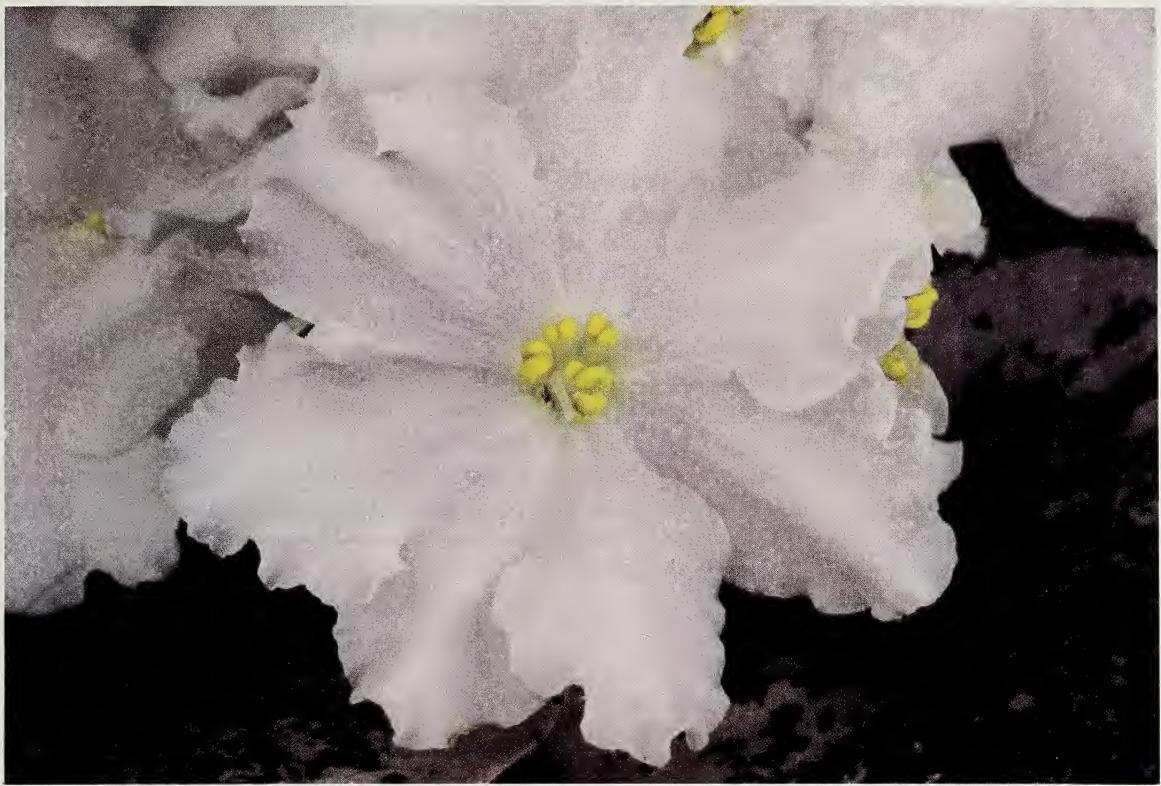
FIGURE 2.



sult in flavonols that are pale in color. Nature, however, has favored African violets with anthocyanins that contain methyl groups (CH_3). (Khokhar et al, 1982). Harborne (1967) points out that flavonols that contain methyl groups produce substances which are distinctly yellow. This is the source of yellow in roses for example. If yellow African violets are indeed the result of the failure to convert flavonols into anthocyanins, the resulting flavonols would still contain the methyl groups. The yellow in Nolan's plants is very distinct, supporting the idea that the conversion failure to anthocyanins is the source for the yellow pigment.

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PINK WHISPER
LEPRECHAUNS DAYDREAM (photos by Paul Sorano)

LYNDON LYON GREENHOUSES
Paul & Sidney Sorano



Corrections & Additions

To 1990 Boston Convention Information

Corrected phone number

One digit was left off of Ruth Warren's phone number on the room sharing form. The correct number is 508-679-1189.

Design Division Rules Correction

11. Anyone desiring to reserve space in the design division must send a reservation blank postmarked no sooner than December 1, 1989 and sent no later than February 1, 1990, to: Julie Adams, 186 Waverly Rd., Shelton, CT 06484. No phone reservations will be accepted. Exhibitors who wish to cancel reservations must write to Mrs. Adams or call (203) 929-4662.

Make Choice of Meal

On the convention registration form for meal #3, Fri., Mar. 23 - "Spring is in the Air" Dinner, please circle your choice of the two entrees listed.

Corrections to the Convention Schedule

page 14 of the pink pages

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Classification & Entries (For convention workers only)

Thursday, 12:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Classification & Entries

Corrections to the Show Schedule

pages 1 - 4 of the pink pages

submitted by Emilie Savage

Class 59. "Cranberry Bogs" - Half the nations cranberries come from southern Massachusetts where marshy areas and sandy bogs lend themselves to the production of this small red berry. A design with water showing. Staged in a niche 28" high, 24" wide, 20" deep (side wing is 15" deep). Limited to 6 entries.

Class 65. "Moonlight in Vermont" - Icy finger waves / ski trails down a mountainside / shadows through the trees / snowdrifts shining in the dark / snowlight in Vermont. A design in black and white with accents of silver and gray permitted, using African violet blossoms of any color. Staged in a niche 22" high, 18" wide, 16" deep (side wing is 12" deep). Limited

to 6 entries.

Questions were also raised about the space 18" wide allowed for entries in Classes 69 and 70. These exhibits will not be staged in niches. The space given is the amount of space on the table allocated to each exhibitor. We feel that Class 69, "Boston Tea Party" is self-explanatory. The schedule specifically excludes draping and states that the cup and saucer design will be staged against an off-white background. A small fabric, no larger than 12" square may be used under the design.

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1990 Boston Convention Show

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 \$10
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Silver Tray for Best Horticultural Perfection



TEXAS (hybridizer: Bryant)

SABRINA MARIE (hybridizer: Volkmann Bros.)

grown & photographed by
the Crispins at The Violet Showcase



What Does My Convention Registration Fee Pay For?

*DoDe Whitaker
AVSA Convention Director*

This question has been asked numerous times, especially since the fee was raised to \$20 in 1987.

First, one must understand that the AVSA annual convention and show, though costs are contained, is an expensive and involved production.

Hotels must be selected and booked years in advance, in order to obtain the best dates and best prices. The AVSA Convention Director works on at least four and up to six conventions at all times.

Next, and I quote from the minutes of the 1988-89 Board of Directors' meeting, April 17, 1988, "... AVSA shall assume all responsibility for financial liabilities and assets for future AVSA conventions ... (effective upon approval of the revised convention manual with its incorporation financial guidelines)." The monies raised by the hosting group are for the 'extras' which the hosts may wish to add above the budgeted amounts.

The goal of AVSA is to cover all actual convention expenses. This includes the years of advance work required. For example, the site visit when a hotel is selected and the Pre-Convention Conference with the hosts, have to be financed. The Convention Director position is not a paid position. It is a volunteer position, as are all others, with the exception of the office staff, typographer and editor.

With these two areas in mind, the following is a list of convention expenses which are charged against the registration fee for each respective convention:

1. Registration expenses which include computerized processing of all registrations, weekly totals to aid in meals, tours and presentation bookings. Postage for registration confirmations, etc.

2. Name badges, plastic covers, designation ribbons, staplers, staples, pens, pencils, glue, computer printouts of badge inserts, computer rentals, a copier, copy paper, tape, the bags for registration packets and other office supplies.

3. Souvenir Booklet - layout and design, photography, typesetting, printing and delivery expenses.

4. Convention signs, labels, tags, easels.

5. Telephone expenses — as related to needs of communication among local hosts, hotels, entertainment, bus companies, AVSA office and officers, Convention Director and the telephone hook-up and rental fees during the convention week.

6. Site Selection visit and Pre-Convention Conference (Hotel contracts must be reviewed, space use checked, room rates negotiated, and meals and their pricing secured.

7. Printing of forms, expense vouchers, entry forms, plant name tags, entry books, the convention resume which is an exact, 24-hour detailed use of all rooms and space which the convention uses for our entire week stay; copies of this must be given to the hotel management, security, banquet staff, housekeeping, convention services, convention chairman and convention committee members — each resume exceeds 100 pages.

8. Rental of microphones, stage risers, slide projectors, extension cords, audio/visual tables, VCRs and projection screens.

9. Table rentals and coverings which must be in material approved (in writing) by the local fire department. More and more hotels only furnish tables for banquets and meeting rooms, not for the show or commercial sales areas, etc.

10. Security guards to protect displays, show room and commercial sales room — also the expenses for lock changes so these areas can be carefully monitored.

11. Printing of programs for the evening meals.

12. Entertainment for evening meals and table decorations and favors for these two meals in addition to the luncheon.

13. Convention insurance.

So, you see, the \$20 registration fee covers a wide variety of expenses which help make your convention enjoyable, educational and memorable.

HYBRIDIZERS:

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It's later than you think. Time once again to get the camera out and take slides of your new cultivars for the Boston Convention.

Once again I will be doing the program of new cultivars at the Saturday luncheon. This is your opportunity as a hybridizer to show off your new introductions to hundreds of people in attendance. This is a great chance for some free advertising.

I must have your slides by February 20, 1990, so I can work up the program. I would like a slide of the plant and a closeup of the blossom, if possible. Please include a description of the plant. You may send as many as you like and I will try to work them into the program.

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Best Varieties/Honor Roll: Rita Hilton,
2295 W. Helen Circle, Bartow, FL 33830

AVSA Office: Nancy Lawrence, Mgr.,
P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704

AVM: Jane Birge, Editor
P. O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704

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VICTORIAN BOUQUET - new for '90 from Gordon Boone; large, full double violet purple stars, often with slight white edges, on pointed tailored medium green foliage; grows nice and flat and shapes beautifully and puts up huge clusters of flowers on strong stems; one of our favorites; truly outstanding. (\$4.25)

DURANGO ROSE - also new for '90 from Gordon Boone; frilled two-tone rose semidoubles over dark symmetrical, slightly wavy foliage; usually starts blooming as a very young plant; blossoms are held up in big clusters on strong stems. (\$4.25)

PHANTOM FLASH - lovely frilled two-tone lavender semidoubles; a Boone hybrid that may well be the best violet cultivar we have ever grown; fantastic show plant with medium to dark green foliage; extremely floriferous with blossoms that last and last; pictured in the September '89 AV magazine. (\$3.75)

GALA PINK - huge double pink stars produced in abundance over deep green foliage with just a hint of a wave; magnificent, large-growing show plant; the plant on our display table in Kansas City had a full head of bloom well over a foot in diameter. (\$3.75)

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3-1/2	Wh or Gr	RT or SQ	1.75	3.10	7.30	13.00	58.00
4	Wh or Gr	RS/RT/SQ	2.10	3.70	8.30	15.50	70.00
4-1/2	Wh or Gr	RS/RT/SQ	2.35	4.20	9.25	17.00	79.00
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6-1/2	Wh or Gr	4.15	8.00	18.50	35.00	
8	Wh or Gr	6.25	11.50	27.00	52.00	
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Dolomite Lime (raises alkalinity)	1 lb.	1.30
Charcoal (keeps moist soil sweet)	12 oz.	1.50
Sphagnum Moss (long fiber)	1/4 cubic ft.	2.75
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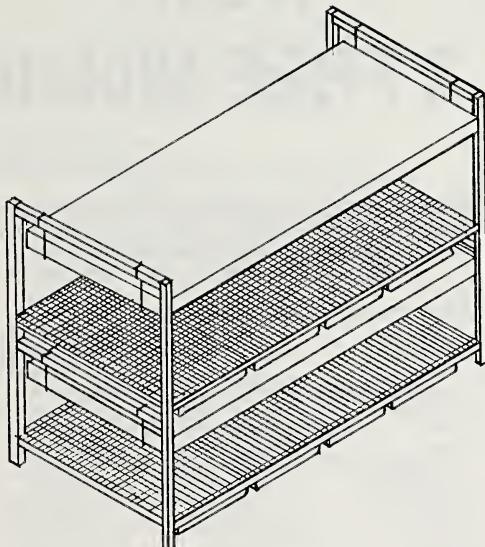
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2-1/2	W-G	R-S	1.05	1.95	3.60	6.60
3	W-G	R	1.20	2.75	4.80	9.00
3-1/2	W-G	R	1.35	3.30	6.00	11.40
4	W-G	R	1.75	3.85	7.20	13.50
4-1/2	W-G	R	2.40	5.60	8.00	15.50
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8"	1.25	1.20	1.15	1.10
10"	1.75	1.70	1.65	1.60

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*DEEP, DARK SECRET: A darker version of "Bayou Secret." 2" + slightly ruffled semidouble star in shades of deep lavender with some white edging. Dark green pointed foliage with cream and pink Tommie Lou variegation. Grows large.

FRENCH KISS: Graceful, slightly ruffled 2-1/2" double blossoms in shades of deep cool pink with a fuchsia glitter overlay, backed with creamy pale pink. The foliage is dark green tailored and grows large.

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*NATCHURALLY NAWLINS: Bouquets of 2-1/2" slightly ruffled semidouble white blossoms with a good red/purple edge and eye. The slightly wavy foliage is medium green with cream Tommie Lou variegation. Grows large.

*OCEAN MOTION: Good sized blue and white pansy-shaped semidouble blossoms over foliage which is medium green, rounded, and gracefully ocean wavy, with white sea-foam Tommie Lou variegation. Grows large.

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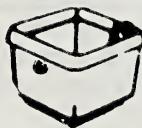
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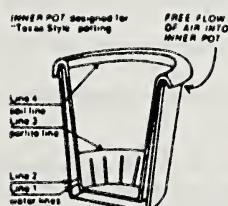
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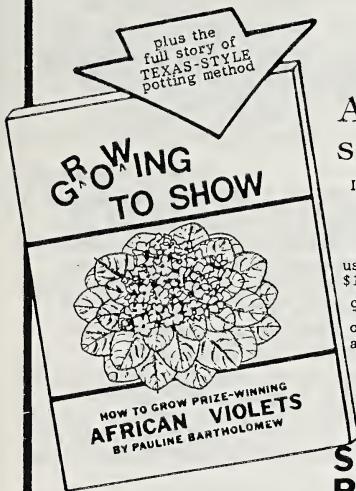
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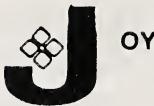
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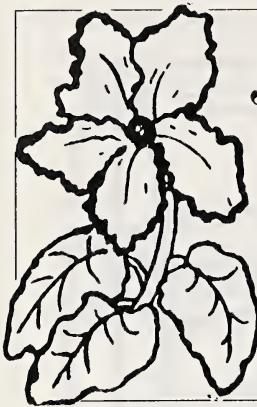
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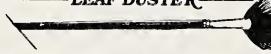
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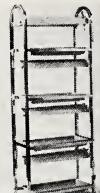
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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 43

Number 2

March · April 1990



Strictly Business — Your Business

INFORMATION FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY TO ENSURE GOOD SERVICE. IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM, SEND EACH ITEM TO THE CORRECT PERSON. ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

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AVSA Membership: Send check payable to AVSA for new or renewable membership to AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Life - \$175; Commercial USA - \$25, Commercial International - \$27; Individual - \$13.50, USA only. All other countries \$15.50. Remit in U.S. Dollars with draft or check on a New York, USA Bank. See Membership Application on page 1.

AFFILIATES: Chapter - \$13.50; Council, State or Region - \$30. Please complete the form received with your renewal notice and return to AVSA office with affiliate dues check..

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION: Send ideas, offers to help, requests for assistance to Anne Tinari, 2325 Valley Rd., Box 190, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

AFFILIATES: For information on shows, awards, how to organize a chapter or membership questions, write Mr. Bill Foster, 3610 Gray Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.

AVSA OFFICE: Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704, 409-839-4725. Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

BEST VARIETIES: HONOR ROLL COMPILER: Rita Hilton, 2295 W. Helen Circle, Bartow, FL 33830.

BINDERS FOR AVMs: \$10.75 each or 2 for \$20

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BOOSTER FUND: Send contributions to Ruth Warren, P. O. Box 3664, Fall River, MA 02722.

BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND: Send contributions (club or individual) to Mrs. Marlene Brown, P. O. Box 38, Oreland, PA 19075.

BUILDING FUND: Send contributions to Nell-Sue Tyson, 2030 E. Amherst Ave., Denver, CO 80210.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: Mr. David Buttram, P. O. Box 193, Independence, MO 64051.

COMMERCIAL SALES & EXHIBITS: For information on convention entries or sales room, contact J. R. Pittman, 12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233.

CONVENTION

AWARDS: Nov. issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Esther Wells, 948 Fair Oaks Court, Liberty, MO 64068 by Aug. 15.

FUTURE CONVENTION DATES: Boston, March 19-25, 1990; Santa Clara, CA, April 23-28, 1991; Columbus, OH, April 22-26, 1992.

PROGRAM: Nov. issue. Send special requests for workshop programs; suggest names of interesting speakers to Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Leeward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

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JUDGES DUPLICATE CARD: Send self-addressed stamped envelope to Mrs. James S. Savage, 39 Mead Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601.

JUDGING SCHOOL: For blanks to register a judging school, send request to Mrs. Stanley E. Skelton, 3910 Larchwood Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041.

LIBRARY: Order AVSA slide programs and packets from AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. List in July issue. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate, write Mr. L. T. Ozio, Jr., 1009 Ditch Avenue, Morgan City, LA 70380.

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EDITOR: Jane Birge, P. O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704, Office, 409-835-6008.

ARTICLES BY MEMBERS & COLUMNISTS: Send to Editor.

COMING EVENT NOTICES: Send to Editor.

DEADLINES - ARTICLES & NOTICES: Jan. issue - Oct. 1; Mar. issue - Dec. 1; May issue - Feb. 1; July issue - Apr. 1; Sept. issue - June 1; Nov. issue - Aug. 1.

ADVERTISING MANAGER: For advertising rates and copy information write: Mrs. Meredith Hall, 922 East 14th Street, Houston, TX 77009, 713-869-0102.

DEADLINES - ADS: Jan. issue - Nov. 1; Mar. issue - Jan. 1; May issue - Mar. 1; July issue - May 1; Sept. issue - July 1; Nov. issue - Sept. 1. ONLY currently paid Commercial Members may advertise.

AFFILIATE 'APPENINGS: Send to Lyndall Owens, P. O. Box 288, Beaumont, TX 77704.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Send new address at least 30 days before it is to take effect, along with old address, to AVSA office in Beaumont.

FAILURE TO RECEIVE: Notify AVSA office in Beaumont.

QUESTION BOX: Jim Smith, 1126 Ferry Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14301.

MASTER VARIETY LIST: Number 4 (1983) \$3.00 postpaid. A must for judges, exhibitors, serious growers. Describes all varieties registered to July, 1983 - all recognized species, and non-registered cultivars introduced from June, 1976 to July, 1983. Order from Beaumont office.

MVL SUPPLEMENTS: will be published in the AVM. Send any correction and/or description of new cultivars with hybridizer's name to Master Variety List Chairman. Back supplements (1984 to 1988) available from AVSA Office for \$1.50 each.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS: Sent to Associate Members and New Members, only. Members renewing, receive card on white protective cover of AVM.

MINIATURE & SEMIMINIATURE VARIETY LIST: Available at AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Price, \$4.00 postpaid.

SUPPLEMENTS FOR MINI LIST: Send Self-addressed stamped envelope to Beaumont office.

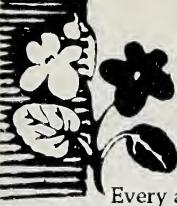
OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE: AVSA Secretary, Mrs. Janet T. Riemer, 392 Pennington-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534.

PLANT REGISTRATION: Marilyn Goldstein, 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

RESEARCH: Send suggested projects for scientific research, or names of interested, qualified potential research personnel to Frank Tinari, 2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

SHOW ENTRY TAGS: 100 - \$4.75 postpaid. Order from the AVSA Office.

ASK YOUR HYBRIDIZER: Send all questions to Bill Johnson, 1221 West River Road, #A2, Elyria, OH 44035



African Violet

MAGAZINE

Vol. 43 Number 2

March/April 1990

Every attempt is made to keep articles technically correct. Since the growing of fine African violets can be achieved in many ways, the methods and opinions expressed by writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of AVSA.

ON THE COVER - clockwise: (top) *Lucy Locket*, Fourth Best New Cultivar, Mary's Violet Joy, Mary Gall; *Glow Baby*, Second Best New Cultivar, Midland Violets, Don and Jean Ness; and *Rob's Magnetic Field*, Best New Cultivar, Rob's Mini-o-lets, Ralph Robinson, at the 1989 Kansas City AVSA Convention.

(Cover photo by E. A. Johnson, Dallas, TX)

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EDITOR EMERITUS

MRS. GRACE FOOTE
211 Allen Place, Port Arthur, TX 77642

STAFF

JANE BIRGE, Editor
P.O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704
MRS. MEREDITH HALL, Adv. Mgr.
922 East 14th St., Houston, TX 77009
NANCY LAWRENCE, Office Manager
P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704
JANE REXILIUS, Publications Chairman
5634 Yarwell, Houston, TX 77096

COLUMNISTS

David Buttram, Emilie Savage, Florence Naylor,
Edward Bradford, Ruth Warren, Bill Foster, Jim
Smith, Nancy Lawrence, Georgene Albrecht, L. T.
Ozio, Jr., Marlene Brown, Bill Johnson, Nell-Sue
Tyson, Lyndall Owens, Marilyn Goldstein
BEST VARIETIES, HONOR ROLL COMPILER:
Rita Hilton, 2295 W. Helen Cir., Bartow, FL 33830
TALLY TIME COMPILER:
Anna Jean Landgren, 810 Ingleside Place, Evan-
ston, IL 60201
PUBLISHER: Publishing Today, P. O. Box 1401,
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Write your AV Advertising
Manager giving complete details.
While AVSA cannot assume
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If an advertiser is found
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POSTMASTER: Please send change of address form 3579 to AVSA, Inc., P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704.

From the President's Desk



Dear AVSA Members,

The arrival of spring brings spring flowers, local shows and the Boston Convention. If you haven't made plans to attend it is not too late. Why not come to Boston and see the "Greatest Show on Earth?" Meet the commercials you order from; get a head start on growing the 1990 cultivars; attend the workshops; renew old friendships; make new friends; see Boston — where the history of our country started; and enjoy yourself.

Every year at convention we give you a chance to speak out at the Open Forum. It's a great time to share your ideas, suggestions and criticisms to the AVSA Board of Directors. Also, this year, we have our Parliamentarian, Christine Sanders, PRP, giving a three-hour workshop on parliamentary procedure — you won't want to miss this one.

Thanks to you the gift memberships were a success. I am sure once these new members receive our beautiful publication (which is one of the benefits of the membership), they won't want to miss a single year.

The Board of Directors would like to thank you also for supporting the Boyce Edens Research Fund, the AVSA Building Fund, and especially, the AVSA Booster Fund. 1989 was a good year. Hopefully, you will continue to support these funds in the same way this year. Our building fund is growing as you can see by the results in the Building Fund column.

The newly revised, 1990 edition of the "Guidebook for Presidents and AVSA Representatives" is now available. Be sure your club sends for a copy.

This past year we have had some new columnists begin in the AVM and we hope you are enjoying them as much as we are. They include Edward Bradford (Not for Beginners Only), Florence Naylor (mini-tidbits), Jim Smith (The Question Box), and Georgene Albrecht (A Family Portrait).

Happy growing and showing,

Mary C. Boland

Newsline: AVSA Beaumont Office

Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager

Important Information on Affiliate Liability Insurance

RATE INCREASE:

CIGNA Insurance Company has raised its rates. The cost to each club will now be \$1.76 per member. While we regret this increase, we believe that the rate is still lower than you will find in another company. Several of our state and council presidents have informed me that the quotes they received from other companies were double or even more than double the new rate of \$1.76 that we have received; therefore, we hope that all of the clubs that chose to participate in the liability insurance will find it worth their while to remain.

BILLING FOR INSURANCE

By the time you receive this magazine, you should expect to also receive an invoice to renew your club's insurance. If you have already sent in a check at the previous rate, you will receive an invoice for the additional amount due. We apologize for the delay in billing, but we could not send them out until we received a definite price from the company.

CERTIFICATES FOR THE NEW YEAR

(April 1, 1990 to March 31, 1991)

If you are having a show in April and need a certificate of insurance earlier (in March, before the new policy takes effect), you will be able to obtain it by the second week of March. All you need to do is call the insurance agency at the 800

number listed below; note, that the contact person's name has changed.

Agency: Albert H. Wohlers & Co.
Park Ridge, IL
Phone: 1-800-323-2106
Ask for: Linda Berryman

If you have any questions pertaining to the insurance, call our office at (409) 839-4725, and ask for me, Nancy Lawrence. I will be happy to help you in any way that I can.

LIBRARY SLIDE PROGRAMS/PACKETS:

Our staff would greatly appreciate our members following the rules when ordering slide programs or packets from the office. The rules can be found in your July 1989 African Violet Magazine. In particular, we ask that you send your requests by mail, rather than calling the office to order ... thanks.

REFUND CHECKS FOR ORDERS:

From time to time, members overpay orders made to the AVSA office, and it is necessary for us to refund them. If you should receive a refund check, please do the following:

1. Cash the check as soon as possible.
2. Do not return the check to us to be applied to membership or some other order.

We will be most grateful for your cooperation in this matter.

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

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Mail this form to: AVSA, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704



Jane's Journal

Jane Birge, Editor

Happy St. Patrick's Day! We'll all be "wearin' the green" real soon — and I guess there's not a better place to be — than Boston in the month of March. Contrary to all of the "too cold" rumors, it just might also be absolutely, beautifully, balmy. That's the great thing about March weather — you never know what you're going to get. So, let's all be real optimistic and look forward to a wonderful (and possibly warm) time in Bean City, for the 1990 AVSA Convention>Show.

As I have mentioned before, I really enjoy receiving all of the different publications from the AVSA affiliates. Recently I've been put on the mailing list for the "Council News," the newsletter of the Missouri Valley African Violet Council. Joyce Stork, of Kent's Flowers in Arlington, Nebraska, is the very capable editor and wanted to share an article contributed by her husband, the "famous" Kent (of Kent's Flowers). Please turn to page 12 of this magazine and learn something more about him and African violet leaf cuttings. Now, at last, we have discovered the real truth about Kent and what keeps him busy during those long winters in Nebraska. Don't miss this one.

Jeannie Stokes of Mighty Minis of Sacramento, CA is looking for some "oldies" and would like plants or leaves and would be willing to trade. Jeannie is looking for *Mexicali Rose* (Granger), *Gypsy Bells* (Sutton), and any of Arndt's minis. You can reach her at Mighty Minis, 7318 Sahara Court, Sacramento, CA 95828, phone 916-421-7284.

CORRECTION

To Dixie Convention Info

It was erroneously stated in the January 1990 magazine that the rooms for the 34th Dixie Convention to be held in San Antonio, TX, April 25-29 at the Seven Oaks Convention Center would be \$40 per person for 1-4 persons. The correct amount is **\$36 per room for 1-4 persons**. Quite a difference... so when you finish up at Boston, plan your next trip to beautiful San Antonio.

Last fall the Beaumont (TX) African Violet Society took over the duties of taking care of the plants we have here in the AVSA office. Nancy Lawrence, the office manager, does very well with the plants; however, as you can imagine, there just isn't enough time in a day to run this place AND take care of African violets. So, the Beaumont club has been volunteering their time and expertise with the plants. Our violets are beautiful and I certainly hope some of you who will be traveling in our area this spring and summer will stop by and visit.

It has been great working with Ruth Warren, Convention Chairman for Boston, and I hope you all will stop by the AVSA Information and Sales Booth and say hello.

Ruth and all of able committees have knocked themselves out to put on New England's finest.

Hope to see you there.

Tally Time - 1989

*Mrs. Anna Jean Landgren
810 Ingleside Place
Evanston, IL 60201*

Total Number of Awards	Number Best of Show	Number Second Best	Variety Hybridizer Regist. No.	Number of Collection Awards	Number of Best SM or Mini
51	4	3	<i>Precious Pink</i> Pittman #6025	20	24
19	3	1	<i>Something Special</i> Nadeau #3668	15	
16	1		<i>Magic Blue</i> Pittman #6249	11	4
15		1	<i>Snuggles</i> Lyon #5018	7	7
13	2		<i>Nortex's Snowkist Haven</i> Johnson #6046	11	
13		1	<i>Optimara-Rose Quartz</i> Holtkamp #6969	2	10
12	4	2	<i>Granger's Desert Dawn</i> Eyerdam #4050	6	
12			<i>Happy Cricket</i> Hollada #5726	12	
12	1	1	<i>Splendiferous</i> Whitaker #5813	10	
12		2	<i>Tiger</i> Fredette #3433	10	
11	1	3	<i>Harbor Blue</i> Weber #6174	7	
11	1		<i>Mickey Mouse</i> Inpijn		10
11	1	2	<i>Wee Be</i> Pittman #6829	3	5

Tally Time is a summary of the varieties receiving the greatest number of total awards during 1989, based on 141 reports from state and local shows. During 1990 the names of winning varieties should be reported on the "Tally Time Report" form included in your SSA packet. Send forms to Anna Jean Landgren. Trailers and Species will be included in 1990.

NOT FOR BEGINNERS ONLY

Edward Bradford
85-25 86th Street, Woodhaven, NY 11421



DIRT UNDER THE RUG

The slovenly housekeeper may sweep dirt under the rug so that it is out of sight. The neatnik never considers doing it. Neither should the African violet hobbyist consider using dirt in his flower pots as the growing medium for his plants.

Although the dictionary tends to equate dirt with soil which is defined as the loose surface material of the earth in which plants grow, the hobbyist will probably achieve better results if he sought a soilless growing medium which replicates the beneficial properties of soil while eliminating the harmful ones. And if a uniformity of components, texture, etc., is achieved from one batch of potting mix to the next, the grower has reasonable expectations of consistent good results. If the ingredients and proportions of the mix have produced good results, they can usually be eliminated as the culprits if problems arise.

A growing medium needs to do only two things: provide a support or anchor in which the plant can grow; allow the free access of water, air, and nutrients which are needed for growth. The support, as hydroponics has shown, can be a material as simple as gravel. The water, air, and nutrients can be supplied by a mechanical system that floods the plants' root systems. But plants grown hydroponically are not easily moved from one place to another such as a flower show or the dining room table for display. The hobbyist growing plants in pots needs a combination of materials that together serve as an anchor for the plants and

allow sufficient water retention, aeration, and nutrient access. Thus, the search begins for a combination that includes the plants' needs and the grower's time, budget, and expectations.

PACKAGED MIXES

One can find packages labeled "African Violet Soil" in every garden center and in many variety stores and supermarkets. These packaged growing media appear to be almost solely peat moss with occasional additions of small amounts of perlite or Styrofoam pellets. My experience with these products, if used without change, has been that they retain too much water and become compacted very quickly. The result is slow growth and often death of the plant from root rot. The grower with few plants may wish to use these products because of their convenience. Substantial improvement can be achieved by mixing equal parts of "AV soil," perlite, and vermiculite. If the mix still seems to be too heavy, more perlite may be added or the amount of vermiculite may be reduced.

Many of the commercial growers advertising in the AVM offer potting mixes for sale. These mixes have been used quite successfully without alteration or with only minor additions. However, there are two major disadvantages: the shipping costs frequently equal or exceed the cost of the mix; the supplier often goes out of business or discontinues his product.

A HOME-MIXED POTTING MEDIUM

If the violet collection consists of 50 or more plants and if there is storage space for the large

commercial-size packages of milled sphagnum moss, perlite, and vermiculite, I recommend preparing a home-mixed potting medium. Purchasing vermiculite, for example, in the large 4-cubic foot bag saves approximately 50 percent of the cost of the same amount purchased in 8-quart bags. Since there is a certain amount of uniformity among the various brands (see caveats mentioned below), the hobbyist has control over what is in the mix even if he must change brands of one or more of the ingredients. It is possible to visually examine the individual ingredients for suitability before they are incorporated. There is no such control over packaged mixes. In fact, most packaged mixes do not list the ingredients or in what amounts. The following details the ingredients needed for a home-mixed potting medium that is relatively simple to prepare and which can produce excellent results.

Milled Sphagnum Moss: Sphagnum moss is a bog plant which grows in many areas of North America from the Carolinas north through Canada. The plant has cells which enable it to take in water to about 20 times its own weight. Because of some unexplained property the moss prevents the growth of molds which cause damping off, the major cause of death of small plantlets. Sphagnum moss also has a relatively neutral pH between 6 and 7.

While sphagnum moss is available as a live plant and as a dried packaged product, the milled (ground) form — fine, even textured, and tan in color — is that which is used for the recipe below. Major drawbacks are that it has some tendency to compact and, if it becomes overly dry, is difficult to remoisten. These drawbacks are almost completely alleviated when the moss is combined with perlite and vermiculite. Milled sphagnum moss should not be confused with peat moss which is the result of the partial composition of sphagnum moss or sedge. Peat moss is coarser, more acid, and black in color.

Perlite: Perlite is very light, white granules produced when obsidian, a glassy lava rock, is heated to a froth. This product (also known as Sponge Rock) is extremely porous, holds water, and provides aeration to the mix. Perlite is graded according to coarseness: #2 grade =

medium fine; #3 grade = coarse. The #3 grade is preferable. The inevitable dust is of no value. If the brand has a large percent of useless dust, search for a brand with less waste. Because of its extreme lightness, perlite does tend, over time, to rise to the surface of the mix. However, the frequent repotting that violets should receive, eliminates this tendency as a major problem.

Vermiculite: Vermiculite is produced when mica is treated with very high heat. The thin layers in which mica naturally occurs expand into "cubes," greatly increasing the material's ratio of volume to weight. These cubes have the capacity to hold a thin film of water. Like perlite, this material is a potting mix lightener and conditioner. Vermiculite is also available in various grades. Buy #3 grade (coarse). Avoid the very fine grade which resembles coarse sand and the builders' grade which comes in large flat chips. The very fine grade compacts too readily and the builders' grade breaks down quickly.

Charcoal: Horticulture grade charcoal will also add to the aeration of the mix, but is used in such small proportions that its effect as an aerator is minimal. The charcoal is more important because it attracts gases and salts and helps keep the mix "sweet." Avoid charcoals sold for grills because these have usually been treated with petroleum distillates to promote lighting. These distillates are very harmful to plants. Look for a charcoal that is uniform in size so that it can be distributed uniformly throughout the mix.

Dolomite Lime: Lime helps maintain the pH of the mix. Because the sphagnum slowly breaks down and becomes acid and because the lime, which is alkaline, is very slowly released when moisture is applied as the plants are watered, relative neutrality — neither acid nor alkaline — is maintained. Do not use hydrated lime which is sold for use on lawns; it is released too quickly and may cause root damage.

Superphosphate: Phosphorus, one of the three primary elements necessary for plant growth, is not readily obtained from a liquid fertilizer. Inclusion in the mix in the form of superphosphate makes it more available. The granular particles must be ground into a coarse powder for use.

THE RECIPE

I use the following potting mix for all my African violets and other gesneriads, from starter plants to full-grown specimens. Recently I began rooting suckers from miniatures and semiminiatures directly in this mix instead of first in a neutral perlite/vermiculite mixture. Because the potting mix contains no nutrients, except the slow acting superphosphate, there has been no evidence of fertilizer burn. All my violets and gesneriads are grown Texas-style except those in hanging baskets. While this mix is especially suited for Texas-style, it can be used quite successfully for other growing methods.

- 5 quarts milled sphagnum moss
- 4 quarts coarse perlite (#3 or #2 grade)
- 3 quarts coarse vermiculite (#3 grade)
- 1 cup horticulture charcoal
- 2-1/2 tablespoons dolomite lime
- 1 tablespoon ground superphosphate

Measure the sphagnum moss into a container with a tight-fitting lid or into a heavy-duty plastic bag. Add one quart of very hot water. Cover container or seal bag securely, shake vigorously, and allow to sit overnight. The moss should then be uniformly moist. Some brands of moss are extremely dry and may require one additional cup of hot water to dampen thoroughly. I use a covered plastic container that resembles those used to keep cakes fresh. As opposed to a floppy bag, the container allows easy access when I add the lime and phosphate.

Thoroughly mix the dolomite lime and the superphosphate in a small dish. Sprinkle about one-half tablespoon of the lime/superphosphate over the damp moss. By hand, crumble the lumps in the moss and mix in the lime/superphosphate. Discard any twigs or sticks in the moss. Continue mixing thoroughly and adding the lime/superphosphate in one-half tablespoon amounts until all is used. The small lime/superphosphate particles will cling to the damp moss and be evenly distributed throughout. The lime/superphosphate may be put in a salt shaker for easier sifting.

Measure the perlite, vermiculite, and charcoal into a container in which the mix will be stored. If the perlite and vermiculite are meas-

ured alternately (i.e., quart of perlite, quart of vermiculite, quart of perlite, etc.) to the container, the final mixing will be greatly simplified. I have found that the buckets in which spackling compound is sold, make excellent storage containers because the lids have rubber gaskets which make them almost airtight.

Add the sphagnum moss (about one-fourth of the total amount at a time) to the perlite/vermiculite/charcoal and mix thoroughly. The resulting mix should be light, fluffy, and free-pouring. When pressed together it should just barely cling together. If too wet, the mix will be difficult to spoon into the pot when repotting. It will not settle evenly around the rootball and will leave gaps in the space between the rootball and the wall of the pot. No new roots will grow in these gaps. If the mix is too dry, it may be difficult to get the mass evenly watered when the repotting is completed.

I keep a small amount (about six quarts) of the potting mix in a separate covered container for use when repotting. This prevents the major portion of the mix from excessive drying as I work.

I do not make any attempt to get an accurate pH reading on the sphagnum moss. I have tried to use the home soil-test kits but believe that I never got an accurate reading. I think I may be slightly color-blind (most men are) and was not making a correct comparison between the color of the solution in the test tube and that on the color chart. I have made no attempt to have an outside test made. I use such large quantities of potting mix that I would be sending samples for testing every other month. I prefer to rely on observation of my plants. Most of my collection is growing quite satisfactorily with the formulation I now use. A few plants which have special needs receive a periodic drenching of the potting mix with a lime or Epsom salts solution. If the local water supply is especially hard (i.e., contains many dissolved minerals), less dolomite lime will be needed in the mix. If the local water is soft, add additional lime. When I began growing violets, I had no need for additives to my potting mix. Then the city changed the source of the water supply because businesses were complaining that minerals in the water were damaging dish washers, evapo-

rative air coolers, and other equipment. It took almost a year for me to understand the problem and to make adjustments to my mix. If home pH testing is desired, Pauline Bartholomew gives detailed instructions in "Growing to Show."

For additional reading on the many possible components of potting media for African violets, I suggest the six-part series "Research Soil Mixes for African Violets," by Heather Gladney appearing in the following issues of the AVM: part 1, May 1986; part 2, July 1986; part 3, November-December 1986; part 4, March-April 1987; part 5, January-February, 1988; part 6, March-April 1988.

Follow Up: In my November-December column, I noted that I have switched my plant lights to an 'on' cycle from 8 p.m. to 10 a.m. in order to benefit from the lower off-peak rates being offered by my electric company. I now have bills from comparable periods in 1988 and 1989. While my total savings during the 1989 period was only \$43.85 less than what it cost in 1988, my savings per kWhr was even more impressive. I used 713 more kWhr during the 1989 period; I added additional lights in order to grow succulents. But I paid only 7.43¢ per kWhr in 1989 as compared with 12.29¢ per kWhr in 1988. Thus, I have been able to expand my plant light usage and to reduce my electric costs. If a spouse or companion is complaining about home electric costs and blaming it all on the plant lights, perhaps it is time to consider off-peak electric rates if they are offered locally.

Next time: Pots and potting

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*Springtime and violets have a lot in common
Both are so magnificently beautiful
but*

*So are all of you who give to research
in springtime and all times through the year!*

Donations received from September 20, 1989 through November 20, 1989.

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See you in Boston!

Ask Your Hybridizer!

Bill Johnson
1221 West River Road, #A2
Elyria, OH 44035



You will notice one slight change in this months column. The questions all deal with a single subject. I did not sit down at my word processor with that in mind. It came about accidentally as I explored the subject in response to your questions. But I confess, I enjoyed dealing with this single subject in more depth and detail than answering unrelated questions on a wide range of subjects. I hope you also will find it more interesting, stimulating, and enjoyable. I am curious to know what your response may be. If you favor the change to a single topic, do you have any suggestions of subjects of special interest for future columns?

Q. What exactly is a mutation in violets?

A. A mutation is a sudden variation that takes place in the offspring of your violets due to changes within the chromosomes or genes. A gene will change from the dominant form to the recessive or from recessive to its alternate dominant expression. For example, the violet gene producing standard shaped blossoms could change to one producing star shaped blooms, or vice versa. A mutant gene is just as stable as it was in the original state and is inherited in the same way.

Q. When do most mutations take place?

A. Most mutations occur in propagation of new plants. You stick some leaf cuttings, and one or more of the new plants is different from its parent in some fashion.

Q. What types of mutations might I expect to happen with my violets?

A. The most commonly observed mutations in violets have been in flower colors, blossom shapes, and changes in types of foliage.

Q. In the history of violets, would you name a few of the significant mutations that have occurred?

A. A few of the significant mutations and the dates of their origin would be:

1939 - First double blossom (Mutation of 'Blue Boy')

1941 - First Girl Leaf 'Blue Girl' (Mutation of 'Blue Boy')

1942 - First Pink 'Pink Beauty' (Mutation of 'Blue Boy')

1949 - First Fantasy bloom 'Fantasy'

1950 - First Geneva edge 'Lady Geneva'

1952 - First Star bloom 'Star Sapphire'

1959 - First 'Tommie Lou' variegated foliage (Mutation of 'White Pride')

Q. Do mutations happen frequently?

A. Mutations are, in general, rare occurrences. It has been estimated that the rate of mutation is such that a particular gene mutates only once in 100,000 generations or more. Nevertheless, there are so many genes (perhaps 10,000 per cell) that the occurrence of a mutation in some one of them is a fairly common event. In the early history of violets, the number of mutations taking place was much greater than has been the case over the past 25 years. The most recently reported potentially significant mutation in violets is the new yellow colored blossom discovered by Nolan Blansit.

Q. Can a mutation take place in any of the cells of a plant?

A. Mutations can occur in any type of cell, but the mutations that are usually of the greatest consequence, from the stand point of heredity, are those that occur in the sex cells, since

these can be passed on the next generation. If a mutation takes place in a body (somatic) cell of the plant, it can only be reproduced by some vegetative method, and the change cannot be inherited by future generations. Bud sports and chimeras are examples of somatic mutation.

Q. Can the rates of mutation be increased by artificial means?

A. There are numerous means and methods that can be used to greatly accelerate the rate of mutation. The three most common factors and methods of increasing mutations are: 1. Temperature. Within the range of temperatures that plants can tolerate, the mutation rate increases with an increase in temperature. 2. X-rays and radiation have been used to greatly increase the rate of mutation in plants. Unfortunately, they have tended to produce an extremely high rate of negative undesirable mutations in proportion to positive improvements desired. 3. Chemicals. A good number of chemicals have been found that increase the rate of mutation. Among these are mustard gas, formaldehyde, phenol, some peroxides, and even caffeine.

Q. You mentioned colchicine in a recent column. Doesn't it produce mutations?

A. Colchicine could be considered to produce mutations in a broadened use of the term, but in a strict sense it does not. When plants are treated with the chemical colchicine the number of their chromosomes is doubled but in an identical fashion. The number of chromosomes is only multiplied not altered or changed in form.

Q. Would you advise a hobbyist to attempt to induce mutations in their violets by artificial means?

A. No, I would not offer much encouragement in that direction for two reasons. First, based upon the lack of positive results achieved by these artificial methods, it seems extremely unlikely it would be worthwhile on a scale a hobbyist could attempt. Secondly, many of the chemicals used are toxic or poisonous, and X-rays and radiation can be extremely hazardous to your health.

Q. If I have a violet variety in my collection that mutates, can I register it in my name?

A. You are considered the originator of the new cultivar that has come about by mutation. You can name the new plant and register it just

as if you hybridized it. Of course, your new plant should meet the usual criteria for registration. It should be stable and propagate true through three generations, be new and different, or a significant improvement over existing similar cultivars.

Q. Is there any special time to expect mutations?

A. You could become a winner in nature's lottery at anytime, so it is wise to always be alert and watchful. Whenever we have an especially hot summer, is an opportune time to be watchful. I can recall observing numbers of mutations in the greenhouses during the record heat of the summer of 1980 in Texas.

How To Squirt Your Friends With African Violet Leaf Cuttings

Kent Stork

(Reprinted with permission,
Missouri Valley AV Council,
Council News)

African violet plants have a complicated system of ducts extending from the roots to the tips of the leaves for the purpose of conducting water necessary for growth. This ductwork becomes extremely concentrated in the stem of the stem of the leaf known as the petiole. It is this concentration which allows for the forceful ejection of water using the following method.

Remove a leaf from the African violet plant and either break the stem or make a fresh cut near the end of the petiole. Firmly grasp the petiole between two fingers very near the end of the stem and squeeze. A jetstream of water will be forced into the air traveling a distance of up to six feet. Avoid directing the end of the stem toward persons lacking a sense of humor.

With some practice, it is possible to actually shoot at specific targets. It is also possible to use leaf cuttings which have been discarded on the planting room floor, even if several hours have passed.

This can be a pleasant way to release tension and to surprise friends and favorite loved ones.

IN MEMORY



RAYMOND J. DOOLEY

The African violet world was saddened by the death of Raymond J. Dooley of New York City on December 16, 1989, after a brief illness. Raymond was a graduate of the Pasadena Playhouse College of Theatre Arts in 1969 and New York University School of the Arts in 1972. He had taught at New York University Tisch School of the Arts and had been a member of the Bennington College faculty since 1976, teaching lighting design for theater and dance. He had been resident lighting designer for Starlight Musicals in Indianapolis since 1976 and served as the lighting designer for the national tours of a number of Broadway musicals.

Having been a member of AVSA for about 22 years, Raymond was serving on the Board as an elected Director. He was a Life Member, Senior Judge, and Teacher. He was Chairman of the Resolutions Committee and the newly-formed Strategic Planning Committee in addition to membership on the Membership and Promotion Committee and the Miniature and Semiminiature Cultivars Committee. Raymond was recipient of the AVSA One-Year Honorary Membership in 1981 and the Mabel and Glenn Hudson Memorial Award for Affiliated Chapter Leadership in 1988. He was the winner of approximately a dozen Membership Sweepstakes Awards in horticulture and design between 1972 and 1985. He served on the New York, Syracuse, and Philadelphia convention

show committees and entered nine and judged seven convention shows.

Raymond was also very active in local, state, and regional societies: New York State AVS, TriState AV Council, AVS of Staten Island, New York City AVS, and New York State Council of AV Judges. He held numerous offices and served on many committees, including show chairmanship, for these organizations. He was New York State AVS President from 1982 to 1985, receiving its Honorary Life Member award, and New York City AVS President from 1978 to 1981.

Raymond was a winner of numerous horticulture awards for his plants, but he will always be remembered for his beautiful, innovative designs and the creative inspiration he gave those of us who are interested in designing with violets. He did this through frequent lectures and personal, individual guidance. He was very sharing and took pride when his students triumphed.

Raymond is survived by his sisters, Ann Borik and Patty, a niece and a nephew, all of Staten Island, New York.

Edward Bradford

ANN CARPENTER

Ann Carpenter, a very devoted member of the African Violet Culture Club of Port Arthur, Texas, died on January 14, 1990, after an illness. She will be greatly missed by her husband, Clark, her son, Clark, Jr., her daughter, Mary, grandchildren, Susan and Greg, and all her friends in the violet world.

Ann was an 18-year member of the local club. She held office as president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. She was consistent with entries in the horticulture and design divisions of the local violet shows, where she was awarded many blue ribbons.

Members of AVSA will remember her as

advertising manager for the African Violet Magazine. In this capacity she made many friends across the country. She also assisted former editor of the magazine, Grace Foote, for several years.

As a teacher of second grade in the Port Neches school district, she helped many young people. Ann was a devoted wife and mother, a good cook, a great teacher and a friend to all she came in contact with.

Ann was never too busy to help her violet friends, her church family, or anyone who needed her.

We will all miss this very special woman.

Julie Broussard

JULIA FLADT

Many people were saddened with the death of Julia Fladt of Miami Springs, Florida, on January 19, 1990. She dearly loved African violets and they were part of her life. She especially liked the purple ones and she always wore purple and something relating to the purple violet.

Julia became a member of AVSA in 1955 and eventually became a Life Member. She looked forward to attending the conventions and did so regularly. Julia has served as a Director of AVSA and on a number of AVSA committees. She received the Honorary One-Year Membership in 1976, the Continuing Service Award in 1984, and the Hudson Memorial Award in 1989.

Julia was also a member of the AV Council of Florida, Dixie AVS, Sunset Garden Club and the American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society.

Julia is survived by her husband, Lester Fladt, daughter, Amy, and son, Brian.

Celine Chase

ROBERT HENDERSON

Robert Henderson died October 12, 1989. He was in failing health for many years and the African violets became a very important part of his life. He visited with people by phone and swapped information and the growing of the plants.

The African Violet Magazine was read from cover to cover, as well as any other information

he could find about his beautiful violets.

He was a dear friend who is truly missed.

Shirley Sanders

HAZEL WILLARD GALLAGHER

Mrs. John S. (Hazel) Gallagher, 89, of the Ledges, 7 Kelsey Street, Middletown, Connecticut, died July 9, 1989 at her home.

Hazel was a calligrapher, designing and painting borders for certificates, including a birthday certificate for the mother of former President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

She was a long-time member of AVSA. In 1974, when the AVSA Convention was held in Hartford, Connecticut, she designed and painted all of the signs for the show.

Hazel and her unique talents will be greatly missed.

Irene Traskers

AVSA Booster Fund

Ruth Warren
P. O. Box 3664
Fall River, MA 02722

The response from our AVSA affiliated clubs and individual members of AVSA has been most gratifying. The spring show time is coming and I hope your spirit of giving continues. With so many increased costs, AVSA needs and appreciates your assistance. Sharing your profits with the Booster Fund helps AVSA members everywhere.

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in memory of Ray Lange	50.00

COMING EVENTS

MARCH 2 & 3 TEXAS — Spring Branch AVC of Houston's 12th annual show/sale, Fair Haven United Methodist Church, 1330 Gessner. Show and plant sale hours are: Mar. 2, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 3, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Free admission. Elaine Click, show chairman. For information: Julie Newman, 713-467-5837.

MARCH 2 & 3 CALIFORNIA — Pomona Valley AVS show/sale, "Crafty Violets," Church of the Brethren, 2175 Bonita Ave., La Verne. Mar. 2, 1 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 3, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MARCH 2 - 4 GEORGIA — The AV Grower's Club's second annual show/sale, "Violets Around The Clock," MarketSquare Mall, Atlanta, during mall hours. Joan Cumpston, show chairman.

MARCH 2 - 4 FLORIDA — AV Association of Gardeners show/sale, "Treasures in Rhyme," Colonial Plaza Mall, E. Colonial Dr., Orlando. Regular mall hours. Alice Davis, show chairman.

MARCH 3 & 4 CALIFORNIA — San Diego Daytime AVS' show/sale, "Violets Las Vegas Style," Balboa Park, Room 101. Mar. 3, 1-5 p.m.; Mar. 4, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information contact: Beverly Decker, show chairman, 619-442-7484.

MARCH 3 & 4 LOUISIANA — Baton Rouge AVS show/sale, "Violets in the Gay Nineties," Baton Rouge Garden Center, 7960 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge. Mar. 3, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 4, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Open to the public, free admission. Shirley Gomez, chairman.

MARCH 9 & 10 LOUISIANA — Top Choice AVS 18th annual show/sale, "Violets Along the Red River," Pierremont Mall, 4801 Line Ave., Shreveport. Mar. 9, 2 - 7 p.m.; Mar. 10, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public invited. For more information contact: Mrs. Ruby Parker, show chairman, 6229 Trailwood, Shreveport. 318-636-4711 or 318-742-6220, Ext. 209; or Phyllis King, president, 318-687-0127.

MARCH 9 & 10 FLORIDA — AVS of Fort Walton Beach's 10th annual show/sale, "Violets Celebrate the Seasons," Santa Rosa Mall, Mary Esther/Fort Walton Beach. Mar. 9, 2 - 9 p.m., Mar. 10, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. Marcella Wright, show chairman.

MARCH 9 - 11 GEORGIA — Georgia State African Violet Judges Society show/sale, "St. Patrick's Saintpaulias," Lakeshore Mall, 1285 W. Washington St. NW, Gainesville. Open to the public. Mar. 9 & 10, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Mar. 11, 1 - 6 p.m. For further information contact: Ellie Jordan, show chairman, 404-245-8487.

MARCH 10 & 11 KANSAS — Wichita AV Study Club show/sale, "Violets for the 90s," Botanica, 701 Amidon, Wichita. Mar. 10, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Mar. 11, 1 - 4 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Lucy Fry, president; Donna Brun, 6913 Newberry Circle, Wichita 67226, show chairman.

MARCH 10 & 11 ARIZONA — Tucson AVS show/sale, "Precious Moments," center court of Park Mall Shopping Center, 5870 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson. Mar. 10, noon - 6 p.m.; Mar. 11, noon - 5 p.m. Free admission. Carolyn Anderson, chairman.

MARCH 10 & 11 CALIFORNIA — San Mateo County AVS show/sale, Howard Johnson Hotel, Redwood Room, 485 Veterans Blvd., Redwood City. Mar. 10, 2 - 7 p.m.; Mar. 11, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission.

MARCH 10 & 11 LOUISIANA — Atchafalaya VS of America's 15th annual show/sale, "Violets Tour Tinsel Town," Municipal Auditorium, Morgan City. Mar. 10, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 11, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. Martha Dyson, president; George Ramirez, show chairman.

MARCH 15 - 18 ILLINOIS — Glenview/North Shore AVS will be selling plants and supplies at the Chicagoland Home and Flower Show, at the O'Hare Expo Center, Rosemont. Parking, \$5.00. Mar. 15 - 17, 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Mar. 18, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

MARCH 16 & 17 NEW JERSEY — Union County Chapter's 36th annual show/sale, "Around The World," All Saints Episcopal Church, 599 Park Ave., Scotch Plains. Mar. 16, 6 - 9 p.m.; Mar. 17, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. Gail Gray, show chairman, 201-537-4199.

MARCH 16 - 18 TENNESSEE — Memphis AVS show/sale, "Violets in Victorian Elegance," Goldsmith Civic Garden Center. Open to the public, Mar. 16, 1 - 4:30 p.m.; Mar. 17, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Mar. 18, 1 - 4:30 p.m. Show chairman, Barbara Poole. Peggy Adamson, president.

MARCH 16 - 18 TEXAS — Fort Worth AVS 27th annual show/sale, "Violets on the Emerald Isle," Fort Worth Botanical Garden Center, open to the public: Mar. 17, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Mar. 18, 1 - 4 p.m. Mrs. Virginia Linson, president; Mrs. Myrtle Chilcutt, show chairman.

MARCH 16 - 18 FLORIDA — Suncoast AVS show/sale, "Love is a Violet," Gateway Mall, 78th Ave. & 9th St. North, St. Petersburg. Regular mall hours. For more information contact: Sheryl Minor, 7991 64th St. No., Pinellas Park 34665, 544-2604 or Sandra Williams, 102 9th St. East, Tierra Verde 33715, 864-2598.

MARCH 17 & 18 NEW YORK — Sweet Water AVS show/sale, "Dining Out with Violets," West Sayville Fire Dept., Montauk Highway, Sayville. Mar. 17, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 18, noon - 5 p.m. For information: Carolyn Klein, show chairman, 718-441-5128.

MARCH 17 & 18 CALIFORNIA — San Fernando Valley AVS show/sale, "Violets Go Irish," Panorama Mall, Roscoe & Van Nuys boulevards, Panorama City. Mar. 17, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Mar. 18, noon - 5 p.m. Free admission. For more information call Mary Blancher, 818-363-6222.

MARCH 17 & 18 FLORIDA — AVS of Pensacola show/sale, "Violets over Pensacola," BayView Community Center, 19th Ave. and Lloyd Street. Mar. 17, 2 - 8 p.m.; Mar. 18, noon - 8 p.m. George Starr, show chairman (904) 456-2662.

MARCH 17 & 18 TEXAS — First Austin AVS show/sale, Austin Area Garden Center, Zilker Park. Both days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited. Free admission. Leona Herres, show chairman, 512-352-8722.

MARCH 23 - 25 ILLINOIS — African Violet Fanciers, Inc. of Rockford will present their 7th annual show/sale, "African Violet Geometrics," North Towne Shopping

Mall, 3600 North Main at Riverside. 1 - 9 p.m. Terry Recoy, show chairman.

MARCH 24 & 25 MICHIGAN — North Oakland AVC show/sale, Laurel Park Place, Newburgh & Six Mile roads (at I-275), Livonia. Dates and times are tentative. Call 313-462-1100 for confirmation.

MARCH 29 - 31 TEXAS — Alpha AVS show/sale, Big Town Mall, Interstate Highway 20 & Big Town Blvd., Mesquite. Sale will begin Mar. 29, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. daily. Show will begin Mar. 30, noon - 9 p.m. and Mar. 31, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Public is invited. Plenty of free parking. For more information call: Mrs. Grace Davis, 214-278-0389.

MARCH 30 & 31 NEW JERSEY — Bergen County AVS show/sale, "Reach For The Stars," Old North Reformed Church, Washington & Madison avenues, Dumont. Mar. 30, 3 - 9 p.m.; Mar. 31, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Everyone invited, free admission. Florence Friedman & Fred Hill, cochairman. For information: 201-568-9736.

MARCH 30 & 31 FLORIDA — Central Florida AVS show, "Color Me Beautiful," Beardall Citizens Center, Delaney & Gore streets, Orlando. Mar. 30, noon - 4 p.m.; Mar. 31, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission, public invited. For more information: Mrs. Robert H. Frilin, show chairman, 1110 Jetta Point, Oviedo, FL 32765.

MARCH 30 - APRIL 1 TENNESSEE — Bluff City AVC show/sale, "Violets at the Olde Country Store," Park Place Mall, Park and Ridgeway, Memphis. Mar. 30 & 31, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Apr. 1, 1 - 5 p.m. Free admission. Olivette Yancey, show chairman.

MARCH 30 - APRIL 1 CALIFORNIA — Nite Bloomers of San Jose show, "Holiday with Violets," New Park Mall, Hwy. 880 (17) at Mowry, Newark/Fremont area. Mar. 30, 2 - 9 p.m.; Mar. 31, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Apr. 1, noon - 5 p.m. Free admission.

MARCH 31 - APRIL 1 ILLINOIS — Twin Cities AVS show/sale, "Violets in the Land of Lincoln," Miller Park Pavilion, Bloomington. Mar. 31, 1 - 5 p.m.; Apr. 1, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Open to the public. Show cochairmen: Val Anderson and Beth Welch; Donna Jo Willett, president. For more information call: 309-828-0484.

MARCH 31 - APRIL 1 CALIFORNIA — San Joaquin AVS show/sale, "Clowning Around With Violets," The Mall at Weberston (next to Weinstocks), 4950 Pacific Ave. at March Lane, Stockton. Mar. 31, noon - 9 p.m. Apr. 1, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, free admission. For more information: Susan Bastianelli, show chairman, 209-931-5070.

MARCH 31 - APRIL 1 MISSISSIPPI — Hattiesburg AVC show/sale, "A Family Affair," 205 Hutchinson Ave., The Garden Center. Mar. 31, 1 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 1, 1 - 5 p.m. Free admission, public invited. Ricky Winstead, show chairman; Bill Lundy, president. For more information: 601-264-3674 (collect - AVSA only).

MARCH 31 - APRIL 1 ILLINOIS — AVS of Northern Illinois, Inc. show/sale, "Showers of Violets," Chicago Botanical Garden, Lake-Cook Rd., Glencoe. Mar. 31, 1 - 4 p.m.; Apr. 1, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Anna Jean Landgren, show chairman.

APRIL 5 - 7 TEXAS — First of Dallas AVS show/sale, Richardson Square Mall, Plano Road & Beltline, Richardson. Sale begins Apr. 5, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. daily; show begins Apr. 6, noon - 9 p.m.; show & sale, Apr. 7, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Public is invited. Plenty of free parking. For more

information call Grace Davis, 214-278-0389.

APRIL 6 & 7 TEXAS — First AVS of Denton show, "African Violets Visit the British Isles," First Presbyterian Church, Erwin Hall, 1114 W. University, Denton. Apr. 6, 1:30 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 7, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Eunice Curry, show chairman, 617 Mimosa Dr., Denton 76201; 817-382-6465.

APRIL 6 & 7 NEW JERSEY — The Central Jersey AVS will hold its 11th annual show/sale, "Violet Magic," First Presbyterian Church of Matawan, 33 Route #34, Matawan. Apr. 6, 3 - 9 p.m.; Apr. 7, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Dale Jasaitis & Cecelia Winfield, cochairmen.

APRIL 6 & 7 TEXAS — The First AVS of San Antonio's show/sale, North Star Mall. Both days, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free admission.

APRIL 7 & 8 ILLINOIS — Glenview/North Shore AVS sale, Botanic Garden Horti Court show, off Lake Cook Road and Edens Expwy. \$2.00 parking/non member. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

APRIL 7 & 8 NEW YORK — Capital District VS & AVS of Albany show/sale, Knights of Columbus Hall, 375 Ontario St., Albany. Apr. 7, 2:30 - 7 p.m.; Apr. 8, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Public invited. Ed Perras & Dorothy Raymond, cochairmen. For more information call 518-237-0570.

APRIL 7 & 8 NEW MEXICO — Albuquerque AVC show/sale, "Picture a Violet ..." Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120 Lomas N.E. Apr. 7, 2 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 8, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Cal Iskra, show chairman.

APRIL 7 & 8 LOUISIANA — Sundowners AVS show/sale, "Raisin Violets," Baton Rouge Garden Center, 7950 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge. Apr. 7, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Apr. 8, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information: Phyllis Harris, 504-926-0255; Anite D'Antoni, 504-355-4800.

APRIL 7 & 8 TEXAS — Cen-Tex Rainbow AVS show/sale, "Violets Olé," Conder Recreation Bldg., Conder Park, 902 Conder St., Killeen. Apr. 7, 2 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 8, noon - 5 p.m. For additional information: Maxine Garlick, show chairman, 817-547-4752.

APRIL 7 & 8 IOWA — Evening AVC of Des Moines show/sale, "A Rainbow of Violets," Botanical Center, 909 E. River Dr., Des Moines. Apr. 7, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Apr. 8, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Joan Watts & Kathy Mathews, show chairmen.

APRIL 7 & 8 ILLINOIS — Metropolitan AVS & Evening Bloomers AVS joint show/sale, "School Days ... Violet ABC's," Lakeview Museum, Lake & University streets, Peoria. Apr. 7, 1 - 5 p.m.; Apr. 8, noon - 4 p.m.

APRIL 7 & 8 CALIFORNIA — Capitol City AVS show/sale, "Violets in Paradise," Sacramento Garden Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. (East). Apr. 7, 2 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 8, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission & parking, public invited. For information: 916-421-8833 or 916-725-5961.

APRIL 7 & 8 NEW YORK — AVS of Western New York's show/sale, "Violet Holiday," Epiphany United Church of Christ, 2205 Genesee St., Buffalo. Apr. 7, 2 - 8 p.m.; Apr. 8, noon - 6 p.m. For information: Ralph Robinson, show chairman, 96 Harriet St., Tonawanda, NY 14150-2310, phone: 716-695-3315.

APRIL 7 & 8 NEW YORK — Long Island AVS' 36th annual show, "Hooked on Classics," Rockville Centre Recreation Center, 111 Oceanside Rd., Rockville Centre. Apr. 7, 2 - 6 p.m., Apr. 8, noon - 5 p.m. Anita Rudolph & Jeanne Maier, show chairmen.

APRIL 7 & 8 ALABAMA — Montgomery AVS' 18th annual show/sale, Southern Homes and Gardens, US

Hwy. 231 North, Montgomery. Apr. 7, 2 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 8, 1 - 5 p.m. Free admission and parking. For more information: Peg Phythyon, 205-567-5433.

APRIL 7 & 8 TEXAS — NASA Area AVS' 13th annual show/sale, "Adventures in Space with Violets," Webster Civic Center, 311 Pennsylvania, Webster. Apr. 7, 2 - 5 p.m.; Apr. 8, noon - 5 p.m. John Gonzales, show chairman.

APRIL 7 & 8 LOUISIANA — The Jefferson AV Association (JAVA) show/sale, "It's Raining Violets," Sheraton Hotel Airport, 2150 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Kenner. Apr. 7, 2 - 5 p.m.; Apr. 8, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, free admission.

APRIL 7 & 8 CONNECTICUT — Windsor AVS show/sale, "Easter Parade of Violets," Windsor Public Library, 323 Broad St., Windsor. Apr. 7, 2 - 5 p.m.; Apr. 8, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Public welcome, free admission.

APRIL 11 CALIFORNIA — Town & Country AVS display/sale, Redlands Board of Education - Board Meeting Room, 25 W. Lugonia Ave., Redlands. (Building located southeast corner of Orange & Lugonia). 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Contact: Ross Davis or Aneita Richardson, show cochairmen, 714-679-7038, 714-794-2771.

APRIL 12 OHIO — Canton AVS show/sale, "Westward Ho - A Violetting We Go," Canton Garden Center, Stadium Park, Canton. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free parking and admission. Pearl Snyder, show chairman, 216-832-7634.

APRIL 13 & 14 NORTH CAROLINA — Green Thumb AVS show/sale, Tarrytown Mall, Route 301 & Sunset Ave., Rocky Mount. Regular mall hours. Free admission. For more information: Lucille Prutsman, 919-459-3722.

APRIL 13 & 14 MARYLAND — Sugarloaf Mountain Violet Society's Easter plant sale, Francis Scott Key Mall, Frederick. 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., both days. Joyce Stenger, president. For more information: 301-540-9636.

APRIL 13 & 14 ALABAMA — AVS of Birmingham's 18th annual show/sale, "Happiness is ... African Violets," The Hodges Room, Birmingham Botanical Gardens. Apr. 13, 2 - 4 p.m.; Apr. 14, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission.

APRIL 13 & 14 MISSISSIPPI — Chimneyville AVC show/sale, "Violets, Ribbons & Lace," Metro Center Mall, Jackson. Regular mall hours. For information: James Toney, 601-857-5353.

APRIL 20 & 21 VIRGINIA — Richmond AVS show, "A World of Beauty," Azalea Mall, Richmond (from I-95 North: take Exit 15 (Hermitage Rd./Lakeside Ave.), go left at stop sign on Westbrook Ave. Mall on left. From I-95 South: exit Rt. 301 S. Chamberlayne Ave., go right on Azalea Ave. and left on Brook Rd. Mall on right. Apr. 20, 2 - 9 p.m.; Apr. 21, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Sharon Long, show chairman, 804-740-5322; for more information contact Liz Eakes, 8924 Hawkbill Rd., Richmond 23237, 804-275-1847.

APRIL 20 & 21 NEW JERSEY — AVS of North Jersey show, "Violets Go To School," St. John's Lutheran Church, 810 Broad St., Clifton. Becky Johnson, show chairman; Emilia Rykowski, asst. show chairman.

APRIL 20 - 22 WISCONSIN — Milwaukee AVS show/sale, "A House Full of Violets," in the Southridge Mall, So. 76th St. and W. Edgerton, Greenfield. Mall hours. Public invited, free admission. Dorothy Fossum, show chairman; Joan Wilson, cochairman.

APRIL 20 & 21 TEXAS — The First Nighter AVS of Dallas show/sale, "Violet Fairy Tales," Collin Creek Mall, 811 North Central Expressway, Plano. Jan Lakey, show

chairman.

APRIL 20 - 22 MINNESOTA — AVS of Minnesota show/sale, "Spring is in the Air," Maplewood Mall, Hwy. 36 at Interstate 694, Maplewood. Regular mall hours. Palma Trapp and Jude Neumann, show cochairmen. Public invited.

APRIL 20 - 22 DELAWARE — Delaware AVS show/sale, "Violets in the Springtime," Christiana Mall, Newark. Apr. 20, 3:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.; Apr. 21, 10 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.; Apr. 22, noon - 3:30 p.m. Betty Gregg, president; Carol Moody, show chairman. Public invited. Free admission.

APRIL 20 - 22 MISSOURI — The Unpredictable AVS of Blue Springs show/sale, "Violets Take Center Stage," Independence Center, junction of I-70 and Hwy. 291, Independence. Apr. 20 & 21, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Apr. 22, noon - 5 p.m. Max Wooderson & Conrad Anderson, cochairmen. Linda Golubski, president.

APRIL 21 & 22 ARKANSAS — Green Thumb AVS 29th annual show/sale, "Around the World With Violets," Park Inn, Fayetteville (intersection Hwy. 71 bypass & Hwy. 62 West). Apr. 21, 1 - 6 p.m. (sales room opens at noon); Apr. 22, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Educational demonstration: "Propagation: From Leaf to Mature Plant"; Apr. 21, 3 - 4 p.m., Apr. 22, 2 - 3 p.m. For more information: Ginger Honomichl, 501-444-7636 or 501-575-4055.

APRIL 21 & 22 MISSOURI — Metropolitan St. Louis AV Council's 36th annual show/sale, "Violets Go To The Movies," Missouri Botanical (Shaw's) Garden, 4344 Shaw Boulevard, St. Louis. Open to the public, Apr. 21, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Apr. 22, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mrs. Fran Russom, show chairman.

APRIL 21 & 22 UTAH — Reno/Sparks AVS show/sale, "A Carousel of Violets," Parklane Mall, corner of Virginia and Plumb streets, Reno. Apr. 21, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Apr. 22, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Carol Mark, president.

APRIL 21 & 22 CONNECTICUT — Thimble Islands AVS show/sale, "Violets in Connecticut," Canoe Brook Senior Citizen Center, 11 Cherry Hill Rd., Branford. (off Rt. 1). Apr. 21, 1 - 4 p.m.; Apr. 22, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free door prizes, free parking. Barbara LeMere, show chairman. For information: 203-481-9455.

APRIL 21 & 22 ILLINOIS — Illinois AVS, Inc. show, "Violets - 35 and Growing," Days Inn, I-8 & Rt. U.S. 51, Peru. Apr. 21, 1:30 - 5:30 p.m., Apr. 22, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Jean Willey, chairman; Adelle Johnson, cochairman.

APRIL 27 & 28 OHIO — Springfield AVC show/sale, "Violets are a Work of Art," Clark County Extension Office, Park Shopping Center, Apr. 27, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Apr. 28, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free admission. Anne Thomas & Ann Miller, cochairmen.

APRIL 27 - 29 MINNESOTA — North Star AV Council show/sale, "Sounds of Music," Northtown shopping mall, Hwy. 10 & University Ave., NE, Blaine. Regular mall hours. Public invited. Mary Endrizzi, chairman, Gail & Jim Graf, cochairmen.

APRIL 27 - 29 IOWA & ILLINOIS — Quad-Cities AVS show/sale, "Violets for the 90's," Duck Creek Plaza Mall, Bettendorf, IA. Fri., p.m. & Sat., Sun., regular mall hours. Jackie Jones, show chairman, 319-785-6024.

APRIL 28 - MAY 6 CANADA — The Edmonton AVS show, "Victorian Violets," Muttart Conservatory, Edmonton. For further information please contact show chairman,

Lynnette Mitchell, 12911-82 St., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5E 2T3. Phone: 403-475-7055.

APRIL 28 & 29 PENNSYLVANIA — AVS of Lower Bucks County's 16th annual show, "Come Say G-Day," Oxford Valley Mall, Wanamaker's Court, Langhorne. Apr. 28, 1 - 9 p.m.; Apr. 29, noon - 5 p.m. Free admission. Betty and Jack Callahan, show chairmen.

APRIL 28 & 29 NEW YORK — AVS of Greater of New York, Inc., will hold its 33rd annual show/sale, All Saints Episcopal Church Parish House, 214-31 40th Ave., Bayside. Apr. 28, 2 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 29, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited. Marceline Koester, show chairman.

APRIL 28 & 29 CONNECTICUT — Naugatonic AVS show/sale, "Swing into Spring," Boothe Memorial Park Hall, Main Street (Putney), Stratford. Exit 53S off the Merritt Parkway. Apr. 28, 1 - 4 p.m.; Apr. 29, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Door prizes awarded each hour. Plenty of parking. Mrs. Albert J. Rourke, show chairman.

APRIL 28 & 29 PENNSYLVANIA — Springfield AVS' 40th annual show/sale, "Up, Up and Away with Violets," Springfield Mall, Baltimore Pike and Sproul Road, Route 320. Apr. 28, noon - 9 p.m.; Apr. 29, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. For more information: Bettie Roth, 215-566-6272 or Barbara Jones, 215-696-7206, show chairmen.

APRIL 28 & 29 WASHINGTON — Seattle AVS show/sale, "Westward Ho!," Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 NE 41st St., Seattle. Apr. 28, noon - 7 p.m., Apr. 29, noon - 5 p.m. Free admission, plenty of free parking.

APRIL 28 & 29 CALIFORNIA — Diablo AV Growers show/sale, Heather Farms Garden Center, 1540 Marchbanks Dr., Walnut Creek. Apr. 28, 1 - 6 p.m., Apr. 29, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

MAY 4 & 5 NORTH CAROLINA — AVS of Charlotte's 8th annual show/sale, "African Violets - Come Rain or Come Shine," Eastland Mall, 5471 Central Ave., Charlotte. May 4, 12:30 - 9 p.m., May 5, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Public welcome, free admission. Eva Harp & Betty Garland, show chairmen. For more information: 740-541-0657.

MAY 4 & 5 SOUTH CAROLINA — First AVS of Spartanburg show/sale, "Circus of Violets," Hillcrest Mall, 1900 block of East Main St., Spartanburg. May 4, noon - 9 p.m., May 5, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Public invited. Shelby Compton, show chairman. William Goodwin, president.

MAY 4 & 5 NEW YORK — Hudson Highland AVS of West Point show/sale, "Days of Wine and Violets," Union Presbyterian Church, 44 Balmville Rd., Newburgh. May 4, 5 - 9 p.m., May 5, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free admission, public invited. For more information: Mrs. Kel Seberle, show chairman, 914-623-8221 or Mrs. Georgina Lark, president, 914-534-2065.

MAY 5 CANADA — Vancouver AVC's 30th annual show/sale, Oakridge Auditorium, 41st Ave. and Cambie St., Vancouver, British Columbia. 12 noon - 4:30 p.m. Admission, \$1. For more information: Dorothea McCann, show chairman, 604-581-5631. Arleen Dewell, president.

MAY 5 & 6 WISCONSIN — Crosstown AVC exhibit/show, East Towne Mall, Madison. Mat 5, 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., May 6, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Bonnie Henell, president.

MAY 5 & 6 NEW YORK — Paumanok AVS show/sale, "Fun Is," Elwood Middle School, Elwood Rd., East Northport. Jane Weber, show chairman.

MAY 5 & 6 MICHIGAN — Michigan State AVS dis-

play/sale, Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 Dixboro Rd., Ann Arbor. Both days, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Educational session, 2 p.m., May 5. Public invited, free admission. For more information: Jeanette Benson, 313-437-3833 or Jenny Sweet, 313-526-4321.

MAY 5 & 6 UTAH — AVS of Utah's 38th annual show/sale, "The Gay Nineties," Garden Center Activity Building, 1602 E. 2100 South, Salt Lake City. May 5, 1 - 6 p.m.; May 6, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free admission, public invited. Karen Smith, president; Cliff Abe, show chairman; Barbara Fletcher, cochairman.

MAY 5 & 6 MISSOURI — ShoMe AVC show, "African Violets Singing in the Rain," Loose Park Garden Center, 5200 Pennsylvania, Kansas City. Both days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Kitty Julian & Coleen Cooley, cochairmen.

MAY 5 & 6 GEORGIA — Classic City AVS show/sale, "Decades of Violets," Georgia Square Mall, Hwys. 78 & 29, Athens. May 5, 1 - 9 p.m., May 6, 1 - 5 p.m. Open to the public. For more information: Marge Kotliar, show chairman, 404-354-6979.

MAY 5 & 6 CONNECTICUT — Silvermine AVS show/sale, "A Rainbow of Violets," The Nature Center, 10 Woodside Circle, Westport. May 5, 1:30 - 5 p.m., May 6, 1 - 4 p.m. Free admission, open to the public. Frenchie Everitt & Lynn Wallach, cochairmen.

MAY 5 & 6 NEW YORK — Mark Twain AVS show/sale, Elmira Garden Club, corner of Fulton & Franklin streets, Elmira. May 5, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., May 6, 12:30 p.m. - 3 p.m. Slide show, May 6, 2 p.m. Free admission, public welcome.

MAY 5 & 6 CALIFORNIA — Heartland AVS show/sale, "Around the May Pole with Violets," Casa del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park, San Diego. May 5, 1 - 5 p.m., May 6, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public welcome, free admission.

MAY 5 & 6 NEW YORK — AVS of Syracuse show/sale, Penn Can Shopping Mall, North Syracuse. May 5, 2 - 9 p.m., May 6, noon - 5 p.m. NYS T'way Exit 36 to Rte. 81 north; Bear Rd. Exit (Circle Dr.) to Mall. Show under clock in mall. James Wildman, show chairman, 315-492-2562; Frank Barthel, vice chairman.

MAY 10 - 12 CANADA — The AVS of Canada's convention/show, "Violets Celebrate," Hotel Beausejour, Moncton, New Brunswick.

MAY 11 & 12 TENNESSEE — Mid-South AVS pre-Mother's Day show/sale, "Victorian Violets," Memphis Mall, I-240 & Perkins. Both days, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. For more information: Mrs. Fred W. Reinhardt, 5547 Santa Monica Dr., Memphis 38116 (901-346-2580).

MAY 11 & 12 MARYLAND — Baltimore AVC show/sale, "Violets in Toyland," Towson Marketplace, Joppa Rd. & Putty Hill Ave., Towson. May 11, 1 - 9:30 p.m.; May 12, 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Dianne Good and Charles Cohen, cochairmen.

MAY 11 & 12 OHIO — Parmatown AVC's 30th annual show/sale, "Moon Mysteries and Violets," Parmatown Mall, corner of Ridge & Ridgewood, Parma. Public invited. Georgeann Gohr & Marion Tisdale, cochairmen. For more information: Edward Gohr, 216-949-8475.

MAY 11 & 12 WISCONSIN — Fox Valley AVC show/sale, "Violets Oriental Style," The Avenue, 103 West College Ave., Appleton. May 11, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., May 12, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Open to the public. Sue DeBrue, chairman.

MAY 12 WASHINGTON — Longview AVC show/

sale, "Gay Nineties," Commerce Hall, 1145 Commerce Ave., Longview. 1 - 5 p.m.

MAY 12 CALIFORNIA — Granada Hills AVS show/sale, "Spring Fling," The Town Hall Room, Balboa-Mission Shopping Center, 16916 San Fernando Mission Blvd., Granada Hills. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. For more information: Mary Blancher, 818-363-6222.

MAY 12 NEBRASKA — Omaha AVS exhibit/sale, Southroads Mall, 1001 Fort Crook Rd. N., Bellevue. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

MAY 12 TEXAS — AV Study Club of Houston sale, Westwood Mall (Hwy. 59 & Bissonnet). 10 a.m. - until sold out.

MAY 12 & 13 KANSAS — Bright Petals AVS show/sale, Holiday Inn Gold Room, 3017 W. 10th, Great Bend. May 12, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m., May 13, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission, everyone welcome.

MAY 12 & 13 VIRGINIA — Tidewater AVS' eighth annual show/sale, "Our Virginia Heritage," Norfolk Botanical Gardens, Norfolk. Take airport exit off I-64 and follow signs to gardens. May 12, 2:30 - 5 p.m., May 13, 11

a.m. - 4 p.m. Entrance to gardens is \$2; show is free. For more information: Carol Van, show chairman, 300 Brittain Lane, Hampton 23669 or Sandi Flora, president, 804-587-2029.

MAY 12 & 13 NEW YORK — Heritage AVS of Long Island show/sale, "Pirates!!," Christ Lutheran Church, 300 Hillside Drive So., New Hyde Park. (South side of Hillside Ave.) May 12, 2 - 5 p.m.; May 13, 1 - 5 p.m. Free admission. Barbara Kustek, show chairman.

MAY 12 & 13 CALIFORNIA — Ventura County AVS show/sale, "The Violet Chronicles," CenterPoint Mall, Saviers Rd. at Channel Islands Blvd., Oxnard. May 12, noon - 6 p.m., May 13, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. Marcia Shaver, chairman. For information: Charles Alvarez, president, 805-525-0612.

MAY 18 - 20 CALIFORNIA — AVS of South Bay show/sale, "Symphony of Violets," Westgate Mall, Saratoga Ave. & W. Campbell Ave., San Jose. During mall hours. Public invited, free admission. For more information: Irene Thomas, 415-369-3452. ♀

The Journey To Boston

*Margery L. Cunningham
Publicity Cochairman*

When readying your plants for transportation to the 1990 Boston AVSA Convention, remember that you are coming into a cold climate. Even if you think outside exposure time is going to be minimal, all boxes should be covered. Boxes that are loosely wrapped with newspaper do not provide enough protection.

If you are traveling by car, warm up the car before you bring your plants outside and be sure to close the car door when you back to the house for additional plants. All plants should be placed in the car, never in the trunk. If you make your own boxes, you will save valuable back seat space. There is no need to use a box 12 inches high to transport a plant that is only 6 inches tall. Cut the box down and use the closed top as a removable lid by forcing the top corners of the box inward a little. With solid lids on your boxes, you can stack others on top of them, making sure they are not going to topple of course.

As long as you keep the temperature in your car comfortable for your, the closed box should provide enough protection for your plants. Don't overdo by wrapping the boxes in plastic,

as the plants do have to breathe.

If you are coming a long distance and need to stop in a motel for the night, bring your plants inside with you. If you are using public transportation, the closed box is still necessary as you will be going outside to transfer from terminal to vehicle.

Hope you all have a safe journey to scenic New England and that your plants arrive in top notch show condition. May you win many blue ribbons as you "Catch the New England Spirit."

Convention Notices:

Due to the death of Raymond Dooley, an election will be held to fill the vacancy on the AVSA Board of Directors, at the annual meeting in Boston.

Edward Bradford of New York will be the guest speaker for the Teacher's Breakfast, Friday, March 23, 1990, at the AVSA Convention to be held in Boston.

QUESTION BOX



James Smith
1126 Ferry Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14301



Question: Recently, I received a phone call from a fellow African violet enthusiast requesting information concerning a substance called diatomaceous earth and what was its relationship to the control of the dreaded soil mealy bug.

Answer: Not being familiar with diatomaceous earth, I had to do a little digging. In the May/June 1989 issue of the Gesneriad Journal, there is an article written by Sybil Behrens which explains the use of this substance as a non-chemical control of this pest.

She describes them as "the skeletal remains of a one-celled diatom from eons ago." The dictionary describes the diatom as one of various minute unicellular or colonial algae of the class bracillarophceae, having siliceous cell walls consisting of two overlapping-symmetrical parts. Diatomaceous earth is a white or cream-colored siliceous earth composed of the shells of diatoms. Diatoms are the food of certain whales. Is high school biology coming back to you?

Sybil explains that "It is a very sharp-edged particle that is abrasive to insects; it cuts through their protective coating and they lose so much of their body's moisture that they just plain die." Too bad for the mealy bug, but a victory for the African violet grower. If any of you have an / further knowledge of this unique non-chemical method of soil mealy bug control, please write to me. To obtain some diatomaceous earth , write to Mellners, and Nitron Industries, P O. Box 1447, Fayetteville, AR 72702. Good luck

Question: I am interested in organizing an African Violet Club and need some pointers on

what and how to get started. Could you please help or refer me to someone who can provide this information.

Answer: In Volume 31, Number 1, January, 1978 issue of the AVM, is a terrific article written by Sandra Lex of Toronto, Ontario, entitled, "Do I really need this? Birth of an Affiliate," In it she explains the trials and tribulations of starting an African violet club. If you don't have access to this particular issue, write to the AVSA office and request a copy of the article.

In another publication, the Gesneriad Journal, March and the May, 1989 issues, Shirley R. Jeffrey has a two-part article which will give you another point of view with additional ideas. For copies of her article, you may write to: Gesneriad Journal, 2119 Pile St., Clovis, NM 88101. The titles are, "Organizing a Club," Parts I and II.

I spoke to the AVSA Affiliate Chairman, Bill Foster. He will send to anyone, a packet containing information on how to start an affiliate club. His address is listed on the inside-front cover of this magazine. Additionally, L. T. Ocio, AVSA Library chairman, recommended that you write to the AVSA Office requesting the library packets containing by-laws and affiliate yearbooks. These will be helpful as well.

All it takes are people who are interested in growing African violets, a place that is convenient for all to attend, effective leaders and teachers, good publicity, and interesting programs to make an African violet club successful.

Question: Why is it necessary to disbud African violets when preparing them for show? I really don't find it all that helpful as my plants have no problem blooming in time for show.

Answer: The purpose of disbudding plants is to direct the energy that is produced by the plant toward the growth of the foliage. This gives nice even growth to the newly forming leaves in the center of the plant. They won't become stunted or deformed from heavy blooming. It is my experience that disbudding does promote even growth of foliage and will produce a nice distribution of blossoms. For a good disbudding schedule, see page 46 of the May 1989 issue of the AVM. Depending on your growing conditions, you will see a big difference in the condition of the foliage and the amount of blossoms produced. I highly recommend this practice.

Question: I use a soilless potting mix. About four months after potting, the leaves start to fade and turn yellow. I am using 1/4 tsp. of fertilizer at each watering. It doesn't matter where the plants are growing, either in the window or under fluorescent lights. It was suggested that I increase the amount of fertilizer to 1/2 tsp. per gallon of water. This seems like a lot to me. Is the cause of the yellowing a lack of fertilizer or the amount of light received, or could it be the soilless potting mix?

Answer: I also use a soilless potting mix for some of my plants. Yellowing of leaves could be caused by many factors. Since you are experiencing this problem in both natural and fluorescent light sources, I would suspect a lack of nitrogen. First, check the pH of your soil mix. Proper pH of the soil is vital to regulating the nutrient supply to plants. If the pH is too acid or too alkaline, nutrients may be locked up chemically to some degree. Nitrogen, as well as other elements become unavailable. Commercially prepared soil mixes, usually are at the correct pH level; however, I make it a good practice to test the pH prior to using. Obtain a pH test kit from your local garden supply, and follow label directions. Nitrogen develops the maximum color in foliage and promotes growth; the lack of it will cause yellowing and a stunt-like appearance. I would not increase the amount of fertilizer from 1/4 to 1/2 tsp. per gallon of water. This increase, in time, may add to your problems. Under a constant feed program, 1/4 teaspoon is usually plenty. A range of 6.2 to 6.7 is ideal for most specimens.

I receive a lot of mail and many questions are duplicates of the same problem. In this case, I will respond in my column. If you need a quick reply, please be sure to include a SASE. It may take me a little time to answer letters, but please be patient, and I will try my best to get to all of them.

VIOLETS 4 U

"Violet," "Violets," "A. Violet"
The Personalized license plate!



Why not use it as an opportunity to publicize your hobby, even to advertise your affiliate and AVSA?

People have seen my license plate in the shopping center and stopped to ask, "Do you grow African violets?" Of course it was helpful that I had fliers about our upcoming show and AVSA culture folders available to hand out. People always have questions about violets and it's just one more way they can find us.

Better hurry! There's only one of each per state. Maybe you can share a new idea or logo with us.

Bev Promersberger
Membership and Promotion Committee

The Poet's Corner

Shy transplant from steaming
African woods
Cuddled in thick green blanket
of heart-shaped leaves.
Friendly faces
lift eagerly for a tender touch.
Flowers can smile!

Pastel colors from earth's cosmetic counter,
each blossom-face with its own expression.
Now roguish. Now pure.
Now girlish in lavender ruffles.
They reach out breathlessly.
Can they offer faith, love, or laughter?

Fragile friends.
Responsive to light,
warmth, and water.
Stunted by haste,
haste, violence, neglect.

Take time to touch them. Like children,
they must have gentle care.
Be worthy of their trust.
Speak softly,
but tell them of your needs.

You are laborers together,
reaching for perfection.
Thank each tiny bloom for beauty -
they will hear.
No nod of affirmation,
no special sound of joy.
Yet feel!
Hold the cloak of their moist warmth
around your tiredness.
Smell the strength
of the African forest
in the rich dark soil.

Look into the uplifted faces
of your flower friends.
Go from here rested.
Whole.
Needed.
You are one with the Thought of Creation.

Micro-Beautiful and Maxi-Easy

Laurene Jones
3430 Luttrell Rd., Annandale, VA 22003

Many of us have been enchanted by those lovely microminiature plants in the tiny thumb pots. The enchantment faded when we realized we must water these pots twice a day on a bright windowsill. Then came the clear plastic reservoirs, making life so much easier. The tiny pots fit tightly into a hole in the top of the rectangular or hexagonal boxes and a minute strand of wick extends into the water below. This is convenient but presented a problem for me when it came time to repot. My regular mix for wicking was causing the roots to rot. Obviously, the reason must be an excessively heavy mix and the problem was eliminated by lightening the mix with more fine perlite (made by catching what fell through a strainer when I sifted the perlite). However, I wondered — how was this wicking setup different from my others? The answer lay in the tight seal between the lid of the reservoir and the pot. In all other wicking setups the pot sits above the reservoir and there is air circulation around the drainage holes. In these reservoirs, the pot sits inside a bath of saturated air. I believe this is the cause of the need for a lighter mix.

So much for easy, now for the beautiful. The rectangular boxes used for these reservoirs are available at plastics stores in some colors, then you must cut a hole. The hexagonal boxes are available in colorless only. My solution to all those colorless boxes is acrylic "stained glass" paint available in craft shops. It is packed in small containers in sets or individually in larger bottles. They are designed for painting plastic "stained glass" ornaments and suncatchers. These paints work best when "flowed on." Set the box on a side and flow the paint smoothly onto the top side. Let this dry and repeat on the other sides. This is time consuming, but the result is a shelf full of brilliant jewels. You can also mix these paints to get just the color you want; they are even available in pastels. The result is a plastic coat on the box and is still transparent. One caution — keep the paint off the lip of the lower box which fits into the top.

Virginia Gasper

Happy glittering and glowing!

AVSA Building Fund

Nell-Sue Tyson
2030 E. Amherst Avenue
Denver, CO 80210



There seem to be many ideas formulating as to ways in which the Building Fund can rise to new heights. At the time of closing the books on November 20, total contributions now stand at \$58,305.22.

We hope to be well past the \$60,000 mark by Convention time in Boston.

We commend you for these novel ideas. We will all be happy when the day arrives, hopefully in the not too distant future, when we can truly say, "this is OUR home," ... and say it with much pride and deep satisfaction in a job well done.

Remember, donations are tax deductible.

Contributions received from Oct. 25 through Nov. 20
November, 1989

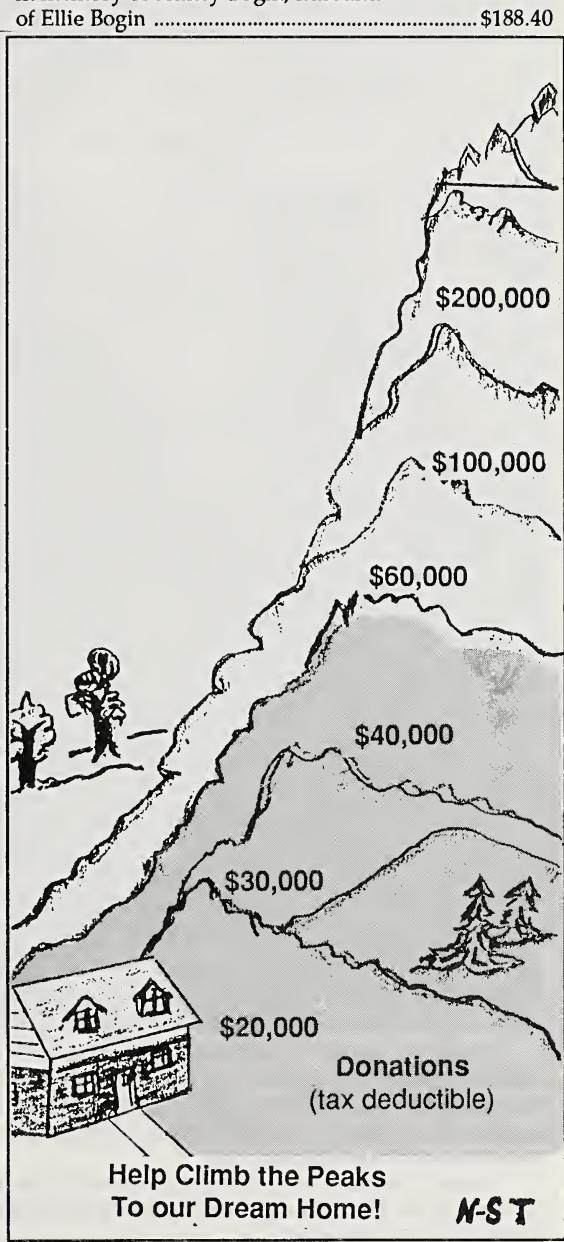
Nassau AVS, NY

in memory of Sidney Bogin, husband
of Ellie Bogin \$188.40

Friendship AVS, TX
in memory of Inez Turner,
daughter of Mrs. Mary Freeman \$15.00
Glenview/Northshore AVS, IL
proceeds from the raffle of a large terrarium 78.00
Barbara A. Goodsell, IL 10.00
Don L. Thornburg, CA 15.00
The Montgomery AVS, AL
in memory of past members 15.00
Sweet Water AVS, NY 10.00
Carl H. Helm, FL
in memory of Ralph Gifford, president
of Wedgewood Violet Club, IL 15.00
Marilyn Goldstein, FL
in memory of Linda Marshall's sister
in memory of Judy Partain's husband 10.00
Marilyn Goldstein, FL 38.00
AV Club of Trenton, NJ
in lieu of speaker's fee to Janet Riemer
for presenting Maas Variety slide program 25.00
AVS of Greater Tulsa, OK 25.00
Lake Shore AVS, Inc., IL 55.00
AVS of Minnesota 25.00
Union County Chapter AVSA, NJ
in memory of former member, Fred Brenner 10.00
The AV Study Club of Houston, TX
in memory of Ray Lange 100.00

Total for the month - \$446.00

TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS - \$57,275.82



Don L. Thornburg, CA	15.00	Amethyst AVC, MO	10.00
Old Dominion AVS of Northern Virginia	25.00	Barrington Bloomers, IL	
AVS of Philadelphia, PA		in lieu of judges fees to: Mildred Schroeder, Barbara Goodsell, Shirley Gunther, Jay Corbett, Barbara Corbett and Millie Ashe	25.00
in lieu of speaker's fee to Janet Riemer	35.00	Richmond AVS, VA	
Lone Star AV Council, TX		by saving cash register receipts from a local food chain	200.00
in memory of Ray Lange	100.00	Metropolitan St. Louis AV Council, MO	
Central Texas Judges Council		in lieu of fee to Hugh Mackey for teaching a design school	50.00
in memory of Ray Lange	25.00	Naomi M. Nolan, TX	
Mrs. H. N. (E) Hansen		in honor of Ray Lange	10.00
sale of craft items	50.00	New York City AVS, Inc.	
Tristate AV Council, NJ		Leila Egenitis passed the hat	27.00
in lieu of judges expenses for: Lee Gugliada, Joyce McMullen, Barbara Jones, Carolyn Shaw, Susan Hanna and Enid Branson	25.00	Wedgewood AVC, IL	
Marilyn Goldstein, FL	144.00	in memory of Ralph G. Gifford, president of Belvidere, IL	15.00
Spring Branch AVC, TX		Total for the month - \$1,029.40	
in memory of Ray Lange	25.00		
Mrs. L. B. (Betty) Moss, Jr., TX		TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS - \$58,305.22	
in memory of Ray Lange	10.00		
Joyce A. Stenger & John Nabers, MD			
in memory of a dear friend & teacher, Ray Lange	50.00		



The children at Coles Island School In New Brunswick, Canada are truly potential violet growers. Having been given plants to try their horticultural expertise, and with the promise of a judged show, the response was overwhelming. Seventeen of the 20 plants given out to be grown were judged at their school. Blue, red and white ribbons were presented; however, for the top three violets, gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded.

Adam Doucett won the gold medal, Amanda Miller won silver and Benjamin Stevens took the bronze. After the judging, the students entertained with songs and Kelly Northrup danced. Refreshments were served. The class had their display at the Sussex show which was well attended.



Suncoast Paisley Print
from the display table
of Kent's Flowers, Arlington, NE
1989 Kansas City Convention/Show

photo by Ed Johnson



mini - tidbits



Florence Naylor

2647 Harbor Boulevard, Ventura, CA 93001

I sure am looking forward to the Boston Convention to see what new cultivars have appeared on the scene. At the fall California State Convention held in Fresno, I saw a real cutie, Alan's Amoeba. It had a zillion bell-shaped blue blossoms on micromini foliage with a very symmetrical growth pattern. The Alan's Series are hybridized by A. Murphy. Funny how some hybridizers allude one's attention, but I will keep my eyes open for more of the Alan's Series.

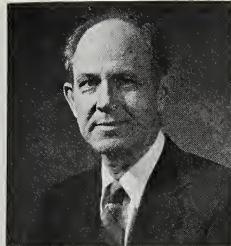
Awards Chairman, Sharon Johnson, reports that the North Star AV Council had a "Violet Pot-Pourri," last October. Best miniature collection was won by Ruth Bann with Precious Pink, Hart's Snow White, and Snuggles. Best miniature and semiminiature were Rythmn Rascal and Ballet Wee Bee, respectively, won by Retha Johnson.

I just spent the entire weekend potting up new babies grown from leaves of cultivars new to me: Play Time, Sugar Bear Blues, Swing Along, Moon Bright, Teen Fancy, Royal Rich, Rob's Artful Dodger, Happy Teen, Twilight Girl, Blueberry Swirl, Rob's Foolishness — just to name a few. Many of them were on the Commercial Display Tables at the Kansas City Convention. My only wish is that I have equally lovely plants as I knew they can become.

I start all my leaves in vermiculite in a shallow container. If you only have rather deep cups or pots, fill the bottom of the container with enough perlite so that you only need a thin layer of vermiculite on top, one half to one inch deep, to allow the leaves to rest comfortably on the edge. Minis come up best for me if the cut stem is just covered by the vermiculite one

quarter-one half inch from the surface. If one uses a container like a shallow dish, egg carton, with no holes in the bottom, a layer of perlite in the bottom will provide air pockets to trap air for the root structure, even if you keep the container moist at all times. To help prevent roots and new growth from rotting or turning sour, I use Fredette's Allegro which seems to keep microbial growth to a minimum, while feeding the plants. There seems to be some iodine or something in the starter fertilizer that promotes healthy, strong plants without damp off, which can occur if plant medium is wet all the time. It helps to keep a transparent cover over newly planted leaves until roots have a chance to grow — about three weeks. A cover can also cover a multitude of sins such as forgetting to water at the proper time. It will keep a humid atmosphere long after the water has run out. After a well established root structure has formed, the new babies will soon follow.

Get your lists of 25 favorite minis, semiminis, microminis and trailers sent to me by March 15, 1990, to be included in the survey. I would also like to hear from you folks that grow under cold winter conditions. Perhaps you have helpful hints you might like to share with new growers from cold winter regions. Since this is not a common problem in southern California, I must rely on your assistance to answer questions on how to maintain warm growing spaces without drying out the air and bankrupting your plant allowance. On rare occasions some of our greenhouse growers have experienced some nights of freezing temperature which they control by keeping a kettle of boiling water on a small stove.



YOUR LIBRARY

L. T. Oazio, Jr.
1009 Ditch Avenue
Morgan City, LA 70380

Does your African violet club belong to AVSA as an Affiliated chapter? I strongly urge you to encourage your members to consider making your club an Affiliate of AVSA. There are numerous advantages of membership that your club as a group will enjoy. Indeed, membership does have its privileges. Allow me to mention just a few of them.

One of the most effective ways to create interest in African violets in your community is to have a show, an AVSA approved show. As an Affiliated member, your club may choose to sponsor a show, either singly or jointly with another affiliate. When the final decision is made to have the show, the appointed local show chairman requests from the AVSA Affiliate Chairman the AVSA Standard Show Awards Packet. The packet contains forms, awards, cards, rosettes, and other forms for use during the show.

Another chairman of the AVSA Show who can benefit from materials obtained from the AVSA Library is the Schedule Chairman. Packets containing show schedules of African violet shows from different sections of the country may be obtained by Affiliated clubs for their use for a period of one month. This is a good source for new ideas that can be incorporated into the affiliate sponsored show.

The Special Exhibits Division of your AVSA Show can be enhanced by fresh ideas or new interpretations of other popular exhibits simply by choosing one of the AVSA slide programs that are also available for circulation. These programs are also valuable to the member invited to present the educational and AVSA information exhibit, which is required in AVSA Affiliate shows. Available are slide programs covering growing and showing African violets, species, using African violets in designs, and so on.

The Affiliate yearbook is generally exhibited at your Affiliate's shows. The editor of your yearbook would appreciate the AVSA packed, "Yearbook Collection Packet." This packet contains up to 12 yearbooks from various affiliated clubs from all sections of the country. One or more of the top prize winners from recent AVSA convention competition can be found in the packet.

Each year the number of Affiliates submitting their yearbooks for competition increases. The Yearbook packet can be of invaluable assistance to your Affiliate should it decide to submit its yearbook in competition at the next AVSA convention. At the same time, this packet could help your club in producing its very first yearbook.

We are all too familiar with the Affiliate Program Chairman who is constantly searching for different topics and new ideas to present to his membership. Once again the AVSA Library offers the "Program Planning Packet," which can be a useful tool for any program planner.

Use of the AVSA Library by AVSA Affiliates and members, is just one of the valuable aids affiliates and members have at their disposal, simply by being members of AVSA. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is for you to avail yourselves of the offerings of the AVSA Library.

As your chairman I am happy to hear from you and to assist you in using the AVSA Library material available to all of its members. Keep the letters coming; it's a pleasure to hear from you.

I sincerely hope that many of you will be able to attend the 1990 Boston convention. The tours sound inviting, the workshops shouldn't be missed, and the show should be outstanding.

I look forward to seeing you there.



Ness' Red Flash
photos by Jean Ness

Midland Violets

(below) Ness' Snow Bunny
& Ness' Snow Fun



A Visit With Hybridizer — Bill Johnson

Walt Maurus
P. O. Box 2247
Livonia, MI 48150

Green Circle Growers, just outside Oberlin, Ohio, is a huge complex of greenhouses. But to refer to them simply as greenhouses is to, perhaps, do them an injustice in definition. Nestled into the low, rolling landscape, the apparent solitude on approach, belies the excitement as you enter.

These are not greenhouses in the common sense. Block and metal walls rise to six feet or more, topped with vertical glass for a few more feet. The roof, of course, is the familiar greenhouse roof. One is impressed with the vastness of the interiors on entrance, as well as the feeling of great activity throughout. Newness, cleanliness, organization, expertise, efficiency and high technology are manifested throughout the many acres of greenhouses.

Green Circle produces many kinds of horticultural material: poinsettias, mums, foliage houseplants, and African violets. These plants are produced in such numbers that each is referred to as a crop. On a visit there in November, the poinsettia crop was just about ready for shipment. Several hundred thousand in red, pink, white and other color types were viewed in a sea of color sharply bounded one from the other. However, in the same visit, in the African violet house, violets are seen in the same way. Looking at a sea of violet color from one end of the house to the other, we were told we were looking at a million plants.

Green Circle Growers is currently producing 7-1/2 million African violets annually — and are sometimes short of enough plants to cover orders. A large supermarket chain, for instance, took delivery of 63,000 plants for a special sale. Crops are produced year round for such special events. Orders are placed up to a year in advance.

For some time, the plants grown and sold by Green Circle have included Optimara, Rhapsodie, Melodie and Ballet varieties. Leaves of the varieties GCG deemed "best" provided the

plants grown and sold. Englert and Anthoflores of Canada are the newest additions to GCG's horticultural palette. However, since 1986, GCG's ambition has been to create an African violet series of its own. This was when GCG hired Bill Johnson to be its African violet hybridizer.

Bill came to GCG from Wylie, Texas where he worked for Nortex Greenhouses. He was their violet house grower and got into hybridizing rather casually — out of curiosity. He says he made his first crosses at home. Only commercial growing was done at the greenhouse. As he identified especially attractive seedlings, that proved to be reliable via asexual reproduction, they were named and propagated. Over time they became Bill's "Haven" series. *Petticoat Haven* is a large double, ruffled pink. *Daydream Haven* is a frilled, double white with blue edging. *Friendship Haven* has frilled white flowers with a bold pink edge, and so on. Bill



Bill Johnson of Green Circle Growers,
Oberlin, Ohio

worked for Nortex for 11 years.

The decision to make the move from Texas to Ohio was not made lightly. He and wife, Jimmie, were native Texans and Bill was 57, an age when many men are contemplating retirement and certainly not looking for such as a career and geographical change. Bill, Jimmie, Tim, their feline family member, and 80 violet plants drove to Elyria where Bill had found living quarters for them. The 80 plants, plus some of Green Circle's varieties formed the genetic base for the first round of crosses Bill made. The result was 50,000 seedlings. They were grown out, a second round of crosses made, and just now, three years later, Bill has identified only three or four plants that might be special enough to represent the beginning of this new "Ultraviolet" series. The eventual goal, over perhaps the next 10 years, is to provide GCG with a repertoire of African violet varieties under its Ultraviolet name.

Bill's goal, beyond creating pretty plants with pretty flowers, is to create what he calls a "goof-proof" plant. Now, you may think that he may have the eventual owner in mind, but that's only part of his strategy. He is searching for the generic plant with natural and easy symmetry, with strong, floriferous bloom stalks that provide a prominent bouquet, not hidden among



Checking the many new seedlings at Green Circle Growers.

foliage.

Bill says he is now bringing selected trailers, minis and semiminis into his next hybridizing strategy. Hybrid vigor, a solid base in advanced genetic material, and an envious drive to follow up on every hunch for new crosses, as every cross seems to beget a multitude of further, potential crosses, is his next step.

GCG has made a video it sends to new customers that provides an overview of what it has to offer. One day soon it will include Bill's new Ultraviolets. Stay tuned!

(Editor's note: A phone call received right at press time, revealed that Green Circle Growers and Nolan Blansit of yellow violet fame have worked out an agreement. Look for even more exciting developments to come out of Ohio in the future! AVM is proud to have Bill Johnson as creator and writer of the "Ask Your Hybridizer" column in each issue.)



A small arrangement in a lighted niche 10" high x 8" wide by 5" deep at the Spring Branch AVC recent show, exhibited by Ellen Moskal.

(Photo by Jerry Click)

Registration Report

Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway
Hollywood, FL 33019



Reservations are \$1.00 for a two year period. They may be renewed for one more two year period. Registrations are \$5.00 unless you have a reservation that is still within the two year period, then the cost is \$4.00.

REGISTRATIONS

Bill Johnson - Elyria, OH

***Raspberry Reunion** - Standard - Semidouble fringed pink pansy with purplish pink edge. Tommie Lou variegated medium green plain foliage. - #7193 - 9/4/89

Linda Jacobucci - Seymour, CT

***Daydreams Cloud Princess** - Standard - Semidouble hot pink with purple fantasy spots. Pink variegated dark green quilted foliage. - #7194 - 10/5/89

***Daydreams Rosemarie** - Standard - Single hot pink two tone with slightly darker center. Variegated, medium green plain foliage. - #7195 - 10/5/89

***Daydreams Thanks Irene** - Large - Semidouble/double ruffled pale pink with purple fantasy. Variegated medium green ruffled foliage. - #7196 - 10/5/89

Raymond Scott - College Station, TX

***Angel Frost** - Large - Semidouble pure white star with white glitter overlay. Variegated medium green slightly fringed, quilted foliage. - #7197 - 10/7/89

***Frosted Whisper** - Large - Single sticktight pure white star with white glitter overlay. Variegated medium green, slightly fringed, quilted foliage. - #7198 - 10/7/89

Sidney Sorano - Dolgeville, NY

***Autumn Lace** - Standard - Semidouble medium pink lightly ruffled pansy with geneva edge. Tommie Lou variegated plain ovate foliage. - #7199 - 10/21/89

***Big Daddy** - Standard - Semidouble purple wavy star. Medium green serrated quilted foliage, red reverse. - #7200 - 10/21/89

***Blueberry Mint** - Standard - Semidouble dark blue ruffled star, green edge, occasionally some white. Dark green ruffled red backed foliage. - #7201 - 10/21/89

***Cinnamon Girl** - Large - Semidouble rusty red wavy stars, geneva edge. Tommie Lou variegated medium green wavy foliage, red reverse. - #7202 - 10/21/89

***Coral Mountain** - Large - Semidouble dark coral wavy star. Dark green, plain foliage. - #7203 - 10/21/89

***Dream Lover** - Large - Semidouble coral. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, heart-shaped foliage. - #7204 - 10/21/89

***Firewalker** - Standard - Semidouble/double deep mauve red two tone. Dark green, plain, pointed foliage. - #7205 - 10/21/89

***Frosted Sherry** - Standard - Semidouble fuchsia star with geneva edge. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green, quilted, ovate foliage. - #7206 - 10/21/89

***Grand Lady** - Large - Semidouble pink star with orchid glitter overlay. Dark green plain foliage, red reverse. - #7207 - 10/21/89

***Ice Dancing** - Standard - Single/semidouble white and medium blue pansy, blue edge. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, pointed, plain foliage. - #7208 - 10/21/89

- ***Irish Maiden** - Large - Double white and green ruffled star. Medium green ruffled foliage. - #7209 - 10/21/89
- ***Kings Treasure** - Large - Semidouble dark lavender wavy star purple band, geneva edge. Medium green, serrated, quilted, ovate foliage. - #7210 - 10/21/89
- ***Leprechauns Daydream** - Standard - Double medium pink, dark green edged star. Dark green plain, ovate foliage. - #7211 - 10/21/89
- ***Lightning Strikes** - Standard - Semidouble white wavy pansy, medium blue edge. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, plain, ovate foliage. - #7212 - 10/21/89
- ***Little Mermaid** - Semiminiature - Double white star blushed with dark blue. Variegated medium green, pointed, serrated foliage. - #7213 - 10/21/89
- ***Midnight Magic** - Standard - Double plum purple star, geneva edge. Medium green serrated, quilted, ovate foliage. - #7214 - 10/21/89
- ***Painted Sunset** - Standard - Semidouble dusty rose pink star, thin geneva edge. Crown variegated, dark green plain, pointed foliage. - #7215 - 10/21/89
- ***Paradise Pink** - Large - Double light pink. Medium green plain foliage. - #7216 - 10/21/89
- ***Pink Whisper** - Standard - Double pale pink star. Variegated dark green plain foliage. - #7217 - 10/21/89
- ***Positively Passion** - Standard - Double purple star. Variegated medium green, pointed, serrated foliage. - #7218 - 10/21/89
- ***Ramblin Prince** - Semiminiature trailer - Double dark blue star. Medium green pointed, plain foliage. - #7219 - 10/21/89
- ***Ramblin Spots** - Standard trailer - Semidouble/double pink with blue fantasy markings. Crown variegated medium green plain, ovate foliage. - #7220 - 10/21/89
- ***Ramblin Starlight** - Semiminiature trailer - Semidouble/double white pansy with blue centers. Medium green pointed, plain foliage. - #7221 - 10/21/89
- ***Ramblin Sunshine** - Standard trailer - Double red star, light pink blossom back. Crown variegated plain, ovate foliage. - #7222 - 10/21/89
- ***Red Sleigh** - Standard - Semidouble/double fuchsia pansy. Tommie Lou variegated dark green plain, heart-shaped foliage. - #7223 - 10/21/89
- 21/89
- ***Snuggles Angel** - Miniature - Semidouble white and dark pink ruffled pansy. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, wavy foliage. - #7224 - 10/21/89
- ***Snuggles Clown** - Semiminiature - Semidouble medium pink pansy, blue fantasy. Variegated medium green pointed, plain foliage. - #7225 - 10/21/89
- ***Snuggles Little Dreamer** - Semiminiature - Double medium pink, geneva edge. Variegated medium green pointed foliage. - #7226 - 10/21/89
- ***Spacedust** - Large - Semidouble/double dark blue pansy, light and dark pink fantasy. Dark green plain, ovate foliage. - #7227 - 10/21/89
- ***Strawberry Moon** - Standard - Semidouble pinkish fuchsia star, dark wine tips, geneva edge. Medium green serrated, quilted foliage. - #7228 - 10/21/89
- ***Town Flirt** - Semiminiature - Semidouble/double fringed pinkish lavender pansy with orchid fantasy. Medium green pointed, serrated foliage. - #7229 - 10/21/89
- ****
- Bertie Jackson - Sacramento, CA**
- ***I'm Pink** - Miniature - Single deep rose-pink. Dark green quilted foliage. - #7230 - 10/26/89
- ****
- Marie Burns - Baltimore, MD**
- ***Merry Marilyn** - Large - Single sticktight light pink star, may have darker centers. Medium green quilted, glossy, heart-shaped foliage, pink reverse. - #7231 - 10/26/89
- ***Mystery** - Large - Single/semidouble magenta two tone ruffled star with lighter rays. Dark green plain, quilted, glossy foliage, red reverse. - #7232 - 10/26/89
- ***Red Lion** - Large - Double ruffled magenta star. Dark green quilted, glossy, plain foliage, red reverse. - #7233 - 10/26/89
- ****
- Sandra Williams - Tierra Verde, FL**
- ***Strawberry Festival** - Standard - Double bright pink pansy. Tommie Lou variegated pointed foliage. - #7234 - 11/4/89
- ***Suncoast Angel Magic** - Large - Double white pansy, blue eye. Medium green quilted foliage. - #7235 - 11/4/89
- ***Suncoast Antique Lace** - Large - Semidouble

ruffled white pansy, lavender edge. Medium green wavy foliage. - #7236 - 11/4/89

***Suncoast Fanta-Sea** - Standard - Semidouble pink star with purple fantasy specks. Dark green plain foliage. - #7237 - 11/4/89

***Suncoast Island Voodoo** - Large - Semidouble ruffled burgundy pansy with ruffled green edge on two top petals. Medium green quilted foliage. - #7238 - 11/4/89

***Suncoast Lavender Silk** - Large - Semidouble two tone lavender pansy. Tommie Lou variegated plain foliage. - #7239 - 11/4/89

***Suncoast Paisley Print** - Standard - Semidouble dark pink pansy with purple fantasy spots. Dark green plain foliage. - #7240 - 11/4/89

***Suncoast Ruby Rose** - Standard - Double deep ruby red star. Tommie Lou variegated plain foliage. - #7241 - 11/4/89

***Suncoast Ruffled Magic** - Standard - Double bright pink two tone star. Dark green wavy foliage, red reverse. - #7242 - 11/4/89

***Suncoast Sentimental** - Standard - Semidouble wavy two tone lavender pansy. Medium green plain foliage. - #7243 - 11/4/89

Leila Egenites - Bayside, NY

***Organdy Ruffles** - Large - Double wavy two tone pink. Very lightly crown variegated, quilted, medium green foliage. - #7244 - 11/9/89

Denis Croteau - Longueuil, Quebec, Canada

***Charline** - Large - Semidouble lightly fringed burgundy star with darker center. Dark green fringed, quilted foliage, light red reverse. - #7245 - 11/9/89

***Jolie Roxane** - Standard - Single/semidouble white with a purple red side stripe chimera. Light green quilted foliage. - #7246 - 11/9/89

***L'Ange Bleu** - Large - Single/semidouble lightly fringed medium blue star. Dark green fringed, quilted foliage. - #7247 - 11/9/89

***Ma Gigi** - Standard - Semidouble/double very lightly fringed burgundy star with light pink fantasy spots, darker edge. Dark green fringed quilted foliage. - #7248 - 11/9/89

Nancy Johnston - Bakersfield, CA

***Baby's Ring** - Standard - Single dark red fuch-

sia, geneva edge, sometimes with a light green edge. Medium green wavy foliage. - #7249 - 11/10/89

***Bakersfield Blues** - Standard - Single/semidouble fringed deep blue tones with dark lavender overcast. Dark green plain foliage. - #7250 - 11/10/89

***Fanciful Orchids** - Standard - Single fringed rose pink two tone with light fuchsia overlay. Dark green quilted foliage with red reverse. - #7251 - 11/10/89

***Lil Darlin** - Miniature - Single sticktight bright pink, sometimes with white blossom tips. Variegated dark green strawberry foliage. - #7252 - 11/10/89

***Little Apple Annie** - Semiminiature - Semidouble apple red and deep rose two tone. Variegated medium green strawberry foliage. - #7253 - 11/10/89

***Prairie Fire** - Standard - Double ruffled bright pink with lavender overcast. Dark green quilted foliage with red reverse. - #7254 - 11/10/89

***Ruth Jo McCoy** - Standard - Semidouble fringed fuchsia, may have specks of white and purple fantasy. Dark green plain foliage. - #7255 - 11/10/89

***Sea Star** - Standard - Single dark lavender two tone fringed star. Medium green wavy, glossy foliage. - #7256 - 11/10/89

Patt Harris - Santa Clara, CA

***Barbara Jane Trail** - Standard Trailer - Double bright pink star with raspberry overlay. Medium green pointed, plain foliage. - #7257 - 11/24/89

***Dora Lee** - Standard - 2 - #7258 - 11/24/89

***Dresden Doll** - Semiminiature trailer - Double very pale pink, older blossoms deeper in color. Medium green pointed, heart-shaped foliage. - #7259 - 11/24/89

***Edee** - Miniature trailer - Single white chimera with dark blue center stripe. Medium green pointed, plain foliage. - #7260 - 11/24/89

***Ellie Gardner** - Standard trailer - Double wavy bright pink two tone. Tommie Lou variegated plain foliage. - #7261 - 11/24/89

***Mission Bells** - Miniature trailer - Single white bell. Tommie Lou variegated plain, glossy foliage. - #7262 - 11/24/89

***Pacific Pearl** - Miniature trailer - Double white and blue multicolor. Variegated wavy, elongated, pointed foliage. - #7263 - 11/24/89

***Pacific Royale** - Miniature trailer - Double royal blue star, white blossom back. Tommie Lou variegated plain, glossy foliage. - #7264 - 11/24/89

REGISTRATION CORRECTIONS

Sea Spray - #6728 - Please change size from Semiminiature trailer to Standard trailer.

NAME RESERVATION RENEWALS

Daphne Snell - Pukekohe, New Zealand

*Kiwi Blaze * Kiwi Milestone * Kiwi Mischief *

Marie Burns - Baltimore MD

* Magic Star * Misty Magic *

Addie Stephens (Zaca Vista Nursery) - Solvang, CA

*Zaca Sunny Fields * Zaca Vista *

Joen Gehr - Eagle River, WI

* Fast Lane * Higher Love * Joie de Vivre * Quiet Riot *

NAME RESERVATIONS

Marie Burns - Baltimore, MD

* Party Lights * Stormy Lady *

Nancy Johnston - Bakersfield, CA

* Beautiful Love * Blushing Bride * Cherry Kisses * Estelle's Legacy * Fickle Daydreams * Little Cherry Kisses * Little Coquette * Nobody's Child * Nudie Cutie * Robins Nest * Silver Eagle * Something To Love * Stormy Clouds * Stripes N' Spatters * Twice Smitten * Weavers Dream *

Addie Stephens (Zaca Vista Nursery) - Solvang, CA

* Zaca Coralita * Zaca-Jot * Zaca Pookie * Zaca Valley * Zaca-Zanni * Zaca's Zest *

Leila Egenites (Annalee Violetry) - Bayside, NY

* Aegean Coral *

Joen Gehr - Eagle River, WI

* Colin's Midnight Sun * Kindred Spirit * Top Shelf *

Affiliate 'appenings

*Lyndall Owens
P. O. Box 288
Beaumont, TX 77704*



NEW YORK STATE AVS — "Niagara's Festival of Violets," Sandra Lex, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Heritage Frolic*, *Bright Honey*, *Lavender Blush*, best miniature, *Mickey Mouse*, best gesneriad, *A. hildebrandii*, *Betty Tapping*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Mary Craig*, *Fisher's Leone*, *Jean Pierre Croteau*, 2nd best in show, *Mary Craig*, *Bud Tapping*; best in show, *L'Ambassadeur*, *Shirley Sampson*; best design, "Film Festival," *Inez Wolfe*; best trailer, *Spunky Trail*, *R. McCabe*; best semi, *Wee Be*, *Jo Wells*; sweepstakes (48 blue ribbons), *Ruth Meek*.

MICHIGAN STATE AVS — "Violet Treasures," Jeanette Benson & Jenny Sweet, cochairmen. Winners: Best in show, *Suncoast Lavender Magic*, best semi, *Precious Pink*, *Jamie Christensen*; 2nd best in show, *Perhaps Love*, Jeanette Benson; best trailer, *Lambs Ear*, *Carol Sotkiewicz*; best novice, *Alamo Red*, *Beth Harrison*; best gesneriad, *A. hildebrandii*, *Pat Ballett*; sweepstakes (horticulture, 33 blue

ribbons), *Jim Wiersma*; best arrangement, *Sue Brenton*.

LONE STAR AV COUNCIL, TX — "La Tour De France A La Violette," Carol Thomas, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Precious Pink*, *Magic Blue*, *Little Pro*, best semi, *Pat Champagne*, sweepstakes, *Patricia Champagne*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Wee Hummer*, *Precious Pink*, *Angel Lace*, *Linda Bostwick*; best in show, *Mary Craig*, *Richard Nicholas*; 2nd best in show, *Pink Mint*, best trailer, *Pink Mint*, *Hector Becerra*; best in design, "Place de la Bastille," *Janey Reddel*; best miniature, *Petite Jewel*, *Aloha Rhodes*; best gesneriad, *A. hildebrandii*, *DeLores Gibbs*.

NUTMEG STATE AVS, CT — "Color My World With Violets," Lynn Wallace, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Granger's Arctic Mist*, *Ballet Anna*, *Ballet Marta*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Ruby Red Dress*, *Ann Butler*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Toy Castle*, *Thimbles*, *Everdina*, best

in show, *Wrangler's Canyon Echoes*, best trailer, *Blustery Trail*, best miniature, *Wee Dear*, sweepstakes, best semi, *Irish Angel*, Lynn Wallach.

PASADENA AVS, TX — "Violets in Art," Melba Bradbery, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Tiger, Alpha Spring, Marie Knoblock, Melba Bradbery*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Apache Ridge, Grandma's Zach, Magnolia*, sweepstakes (design, with three way tie), John Gonzales; best standard, *Apache Maiden, James Bradbery*; best miniature, *Snuggle Bear, Kathe Foust*; best gesneriad, *E. Kee Wee*, best design, "Pastels," sweepstakes (one of three), Pat Gonzales; best trailer, *Honeysuckle Rose*, sweepstakes (horticulture), sweepstakes (design, one of three), Marsha Bagley.

THOUSAND OAKS AVS, CA — "Jazzy Violets," Floyd Lawson, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Jason, Maas' Chris, The King*, best in show, *Outrage*, best trailer, *Santa Fe Trail*, best miniature, *Little Tyke*, sweepstakes, *Carroll Gealy*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Mary D, Mark, Ms Pretty Pink*, 2nd best in show, *Mary D, Darlene Lowery*; best design, "Black and White Rag," Charline Sims; best gesneriad, *Episcia Flair, Floyd Lawson*.

AV CLUB OF GREATER ATLANTA, GA — "Congratulations, It's a Violet," Helen L. Brackett and Laura L. Walker, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Nortex's Snowkist Haven, Frances Young, Nortex's Hallmark Haven, Jeanette Wallace*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Fredette's Strawberry Ripples, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, Sir Charles*, 2nd best in show, *Sir Charles, Lois Duvall*; best in show, *Elizabeth*, sweepstakes, *Bill Barnette*; best design, *Laura Walker*; best trailer, *Trail Along, Elise Ross*; best miniature, *Homer's Hospitality, Betsy Kroeck*; best semi, *Snuggles Little Dreamer, Jean Wright*; best gesneriad, *C. Early Bird, Virginia Moulder*.

NORTH STAR AV COUNCIL, MN — "Violet Potpourri," Gail and Jim Graf and Retha Johnson, cochairmen. Winners: Best in show, *Michaela*, best trailer, *Wood Trail, Sharon Johnson*; 2nd best in show, *Enchanted Halo*, best NSAVC collection, *Hey Jude, MN Splash, MN Magic*, best arrangement, "Nature's Pattern," sweepstakes (32 blue ribbons), *Ruth Bann*; best miniature, *Rhythm Rascal*, best semi, *Ballet Wee Bee*, best plant arrangement, *Retha Johnson*.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF AVS — "A Violet Family Album," Jacquie Burrious, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Nob Hill, Mary Craig, Phantom Flash*, best in show, *Ramblin Silver*, best trailer, *Ramblin Silver*, best miniature *Petite Jewel*, best semi, *Surprise Party, Susan Bastianelli*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *High Tide, Blue Grass Music, Snow Rose*, 2nd best in show, *Snow Rose, Dorothy Gawienowski*; best design, "Gone Fishing," *Hilda Douglas*; best gesneriad, *Chirita Hiskou, Barbara Elkin*; sweepstakes, *Harriett Poss*.

AVS OF NORTH JERSEY — "Mother Goose in Violetland." Winners: Best in show, *Little Rose Quartz, Stephen Moran*; 2nd best in show, *Kermit*, best design, *Becky Johnson*; 3rd best in show, *Precious Pink, Bob Kurzynski*; sweepstakes, *Toni Rogan*.

AV COUNCIL OF FLORIDA — "Violets on the Go," Jo Anne Martinez, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Coral Kiss, Pink Confession, Wrangler's Snowfields, E. Walter E. Spangler*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Precious Pink*,

Beginner's Luck, Autumn Lou, 2nd best in show, *Precious Pink*, best semi, *Precious Pink, Jo Anne Martinez*; best in show, *Georgia Lover, Judy Partain*; best design, "New York," *Bob Green*; best trailer, *Ramblin Amethyst, Bob Sanger*; best miniature, *Petite Jewel, Mary Johnson*; best gesneriad, *E. Painted Warrior, Dee Barnes*; sweepstakes (36 blue ribbons), *Rita Hilton*.

MKO DYN-O-MITE AVS, MO — "Violets in the Ozarks," Doris Carson, chairman. Winners: 2nd best AVSA collection, *Pretty Mama, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, Emilie Savage*, best in show, *Pixie Blue*, best trailer, *Pixie Blue*, sweepstakes, *Ruth Duckworth*; 2nd best in show, *Big Daddy, Romona Donnell*; best design, "Springtime in the Ozarks," *Vy Shinn*; best miniature, *Snuggles Clown, Mary Kaiser*; best gesneriad, *Sinningia White Sprite, Lois Fogar*.

TRISTATE AV COUNCIL, NY — "On The Road With Violets," R. Bruce Turnbull, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Phantom Flash, Mindi Brooke, Daybreak Blue*, best miniature, *Rob's Romancer*, best semi, *Snuggles*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Antoinette Rogan*; best in show, *Angel Frost*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Pink Brocade*, 2nd best in show, *Amazing Grace, Kay Lyons*; best design, "Bird Sanctuary," *Frank Senna*; best trailer, *Snowy Trail*, sweepstakes (design), *Rhona Thurman*.

MID-AMERICA AVS, KS — "Violets at the End of the Rainbow," Raymond Russell and Sue Knoble, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Snuggles, Teen Craze, Missie Miss*, 2nd best in show, *Snuggles, Jim Britton*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Little Pro, Pay Dirt, Rob's Diamond Chips*, best miniature, *Rob's Bedazzled*, best semi, *Little Pro*, sweepstakes, best in show, *Little Pro, Ruby Cox*; best design, "Beginner's Luck," *Sylvia Prince*; best trailer, *Falling Snow, Dennis Stevens*; best gesneriad, *Bright Eyes, Cathy Swink*.



Best Interpretive Plant Arrangement is shown with Anne Ostrosky of the Silvermine AVS of CT. Theme for the show was "Violets Along Nature's Trail."

Micropropagation of African Violets

Sharol Lindensteim and Ron C. Cooke

Dept. of Chemistry

California State University-Chico

Chico, CA 95929-0210

The growth and development of plant cells, tissues and organs *in vitro* has been described in the literature by the term "plant tissue culture." This catch-all term is not exact and the type of culture must be deduced from context. The propagation of plants by tissue culture means has been dubbed micropropagation by several authors in an attempt to be more specific. Micropropagation has evolved from the dream of a botanist into a standard nursery propagation technique. This article will follow tissue culture history from its inception to the commercial micropropagation of African violets and finally end with some modern technology and possibilities for the future.

Tissue Culture History

All living organisms, no matter how different, begin as a single cell. Inherent in each cell is all the information to produce an entire plant. Therefore, the cell is said to be totipotent. A German botanist by the name of Haberlandt, in 1898, postulated that plant cells would be totipotent and began the attempt to isolate and culture leaf cells on artificial medium. He observed some growth but was neither able to induce cell division nor sustain the cultures for very long. The troubles he experienced were due at least in part to his use of simple nutrients in the growth medium and that he chose to culture highly differentiated tissues. Aside from these problems, he faced others which involved the structure and nature of the plant cell.

Plant cells are not immersed in a complete nutrient fluid. That is, xylem cells incorporate very dilute inorganic ions but do not contain the organic compounds found in phloem cells. Phloem cells, on the other hand, are immediately adjacent to only a small portion of all other remaining plant cells and cannot adequately

and directly supply the entire plant body. Additionally, the rigid structure of the plant cell wall prohibits the engulfing of food and prevents adhesion to a substrate. Only the roots, shoots and cambium undergo cell division, leaving the rest of the plant in a quiescent state.

Animal cells are not restricted by these conditions and were initially easier to culture than plant cells. Blood, lymph and interstitial fluids can serve as reasonably complete nutrient media for cell culture and can easily be removed from a host animal for this purpose. Animal cells can engulf food, adhere to substrates and are mobile. Also, cell division occurs in almost every animal cell. Harrison, in 1907, successfully created reproducible techniques for *in vitro* animal cell culture. In contrast, Haberlandt's dream of culturing isolated plant cells was not to be realized for many years.

In 1922, Robbins and Kotte, working independently, used excised root tips of various plants for *in vitro* culture. They succeeded in obtaining considerable, but not indefinite growth of cultured root tips using a liquid culture medium consisting of glucose, inorganic salts and a meat extract.

The first successful, long-term culture was accomplished by P. R. White in 1934. Using excised tomato root tips in a liquid medium containing sucrose, inorganic salts and yeast extract, White was able to maintain prolonged growth. Later he replaced the yeast extract with three B vitamins: pyridoxine, niacin and thiamine. On this medium he was able to successfully subculture and sustain the root tips from 1934 to 1968.

Also in 1934, Gautheret in France made a breakthrough for tissue grown in culture. Us-

ing cambium of carrot root he was able to promote the proliferation of a mass of cells known as callus tissue. These cultures could be maintained for several months on a simple medium. In 1939, Gautheret was able to continuously grow and subculture callus cultures using a medium consisting of salts, sugar, vitamins and the growth regulator indoleacetic acid (IAA).

In 1946, E. Ball developed the technique of culturing shoot tips with a few leaf primordia to grow whole plants of *Lupinus* and *Tropaeolum*. The practicality of this method was not evident until 1952 when Morel and Martin used it to grow virus-free *Dahlia* from excised, cultured shoot tips.

Though great strides had been made in plant tissue culture, it was not until 1953 that Haberlandt's idea regarding single-cell cultures began to materialize. In that year, W. H. Muir devised a way to break up callus cultures into single cells and small cell aggregates by using a shaking machine. In 1954, Muir and his colleagues isolated single cells from these cultures and placed them on filter papers which sat atop large callus cultures. Cell division was initiated in these isolated cells that were fed by diffusion of growth factors present in the callus tissues below. Thus, callus clones of single-cell origin were produced by this "nurse callus" method.

In 1955, F. Skoog and co-workers found a compound that would induce callus formation in mature pith cells of tobacco. Eventually, this powerful cell division factor was purified and identified as kinetin. This was the first of a group of compounds known as cytokinins. Other cytokinins, such as zeatin, occur naturally.

Another naturally occurring growth regulator of interest was the well-known auxin IAA. It was understood at the time to promote root formation in cuttings and to stimulate cell growth *in vitro* but it was also known to inhibit shoot bud initiation. Suspecting that a relationship existed between the naturally occurring cytokinin and auxin, Skoog and Miller in 1957, experimentally determined that by varying the auxin to cytokinin ratio *in vitro* the explanted tobacco tissue would produce callus, roots, shoots or roots and shoots. This was the begin-

ning of micropropagation! Here was a technique that used a chemically defined medium and simply varied the ratio of two plant growth regulators within the medium to produce a shoot, a root or a complete plant from a piece of tissue.

In 1960, Morel used tissue culture techniques to culture virus-free *Cymbidium* orchids. Realizing this was an excellent means of rapid propagation for these difficult-to-grow plants, he revolutionized the orchid industry with it.

Another technique which greatly influenced commercial tissue culture came from the discovery that axillary buds will grow with an exogenous application of cytokinins. That is, axillary buds remain dormant when a terminal bud is present. Auxins produced in the terminal bud cause this condition. When cytokinins are applied it counteracts the effect of the auxin. This phenomenon can be noted in tissue cultures also and can be used with shoot tips and nodal segments. The form that develops *in vitro* has a multitude of shoots which can be removed and individually subcultured. These subcultures produce more shoots and this repetition is the basis for micropropagation.

Another technique which has been extensively employed in commercial micropropagation takes advantage of the ability of certain plants to form adventitious buds. Many plants are known to form this type of bud on roots, leaves and bulbs and, traditionally, some have been vegetatively propagated from these structures. Examples are *Phlox*, *Hyacinth*, *Begonia*, and *Saintpaulia* to name just a few. Unfortunately, adventitious bud formation *in vitro* is a slow process that produces a limited number of buds. With the advent of growth regulators and tissue culture technique, adventitious bud formation can be considerably enhanced *in vitro* and can lead to extremely rapid rates of propagation. As an example, Takayama and Misawa in 1982, reported a tissue culture method for mass propagation of a particular hybrid of *Begonia* that would theoretically produce over 10^{14} plants per year from a single explant measuring less than one square centimeter.

Dr. Toshio Murashige has received a great deal of attention for his contributions to the area of tissue culture propagation. In 1962, after

making an intense study of the nutritional requirements for plants, he and Folke Skoog published a medium formulation. This formulation has been widely used to culture many plants and has become known as the Murashige-Skoog (MS) medium. In the years following, Murashige (1974) developed a standard procedure for micropropagation of a wide variety of plants. He separated this procedure into three different stages.

Stage I, called the establishment or explant stage, includes choosing an appropriate plant part (explant), disinfecting it and placing it in a culture medium that will confirm its freedom from bacteria and fungi and support growth of the explant. An African violet leaf explant is shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1.

Stage II, the multiplication phase, involves rapid increase of propagation material using either enhanced axillary branching or adventitious bud formation. This is accomplished by placing the sterile explant from Stage I on a

multiplication medium or simply using the same medium for both stage I and II. Figure 2 shows the proliferation typical of Stage II cultures. Murashige and co-workers have devised shoot multiplication media that are now commercially available as premixed powder formulations.



Figure 2.

Stage III, the conditioning or pretransplant phase, involves rooting, maturing and hardening the new explants in preparation for transfer to the greenhouse. This requires that the shoots that were propagated in Stage II be removed and placed on a rooting medium. Rooted African violets that are ready to be transferred to soil can be seen in Figure 3. This phase is particularly important when dealing with plants that require some special environmental treatment. For instance, some plants require a period of cold or a particular photoperiod. If such treatment is necessary, it should be incorporated into the Stage III phase.

The plantlets from Stage III are removed



Figure 3.



Figure 4.

from their *in vitro* environment and planted in soil. They must be carefully monitored for humidity, temperature and pests until they are well established in the soil. See Figure 4.

Tissue Culture of African Violets

Traditionally, African violets are commercially propagated by leaf cuttings. Due to the growing habit and leaf production of *Saintpaulia*, the number of progeny per leaf is limited. It has been estimated that a plant with 40 leaves can yield from 40 to 200 progeny of different sizes per year. This size variability necessitates selection, further reducing the number of plants available for market at a certain time. These same 40 leaves have the potential to produce 20,000 progeny in the same time via micropropagation (Cassells and Plunkett, 1986).

Using traditional methods of propagation, African violet leaf cuttings root and form new plants in approximately a month to six weeks but some varieties may need a longer period of time. Additionally, six months to a year or more

may be required to raise a potted plantlet to a fully mature, flowering specimen.

Space considerations, especially for commercial nurseries, are crucial. Although cuttings do not take up much area, maturing plants require a fairly large bench space. Many other considerations must be taken into account when using traditional techniques of propagation. At all times, pests, molds and wilts present themselves as formidable enemies to the African violet grower. Mother stock takes up a great deal of space and, therefore, the number of varieties a grower can keep is limited.

During the 1970s, African violets became the subject of many important tissue culture studies. In all, over 40 cultivars of *Saintpaulia* have been tried in tissue culture with varying degrees of success.

Start and Cumming (1976) worked with 14 cultivars, using leaf sections as explants. All cultivars responded similarly to *in vitro* treatment. Using leaf tissue cultures on a modified MS Stage II medium, uniform unrooted shoots greater than 5 mm tall were produced in six weeks. Leaf sizes on these shoots ranged from three to eight mm. These shoots were then removed and placed in a Stage III medium. Rooting took approximately four weeks and resulted in plantlets with leaves 10 mm long and 7 mm wide. After a six week conditioning phase, the plantlets were potted into soil. After four months in the greenhouse, the flowering stage was reached. Although specific details about their marketability was not mentioned, the investigators did report that approximately 500 plants were produced from a single leaf section; tissue culture progeny were as desirable as plants produced by traditional means and these plants were ready for flower within seven months from the start of culture.

Cooke (1977) reported the first large-scale commercial tissue culture of African violets. Over 20 cultivars were cultured from leaf section explants. Of these, 13 were commercially successful and over 70,000 plants were produced and sold. Using a modified MS medium, shoot multiplication in Stage II was established in 30-60 days, with an average number of 30 shoots per culture. Rooting and pretransplant hardening of these explants in Stage III was

accomplished in another 30-60 days. These plants were removed from culture, potted and placed in a greenhouse shaded by saran and they flowered in 3-6 months. Time variation in flowering was dependent on the cultivar.

Bilkey et al. (1978) cultured nine cultivars, using petiole sections on a modified MS medium. Shoots were produced within six weeks. Rather than transferring these shoots to a Stage III medium for rooting, they were placed in a lower light intensity for a few weeks. During this period the stems etiolated and roots formed. Plantlets were transferred to soil and flowered in 10 weeks. Specific detail about individual cultivar success was not disclosed but it was noted that within a 3-4 month period, from a single petiole segment, more than 20,000 plants were produced, although only 5,000 of these were large enough to be transplanted to soil.

Although time to produce a flowering plant for both traditional propagation methods and micropropagation appear to be similar, the number and uniformity is substantially increased in the latter case.

With regard to space utilization, tissue culture requires a fraction of the room that cutting beds use. Potted plants, of course, take up the same amount of room, but, due to the uniformity of form reported by a number of investigators, bench space is used with maximum efficiency.

By using micropropagation techniques, protection from pests and pathogens for the young plantlets through Stage III is maximized. This is due in large part to the aseptic conditions necessary for successful use of this method. The use of mother stock is necessary for both conventional and micropropagation, but with conventional propagation the number of plants produced is proportional to the mother stock held. The number of plants produced by micropropagation is limited by laboratory size and as few as one mother plant can be used as a source of tissue.

Another advantage of the tissue culture technique is that with the high rates of propagation, many more cultivars can be introduced into a nursery's collection. That is, fewer mother stock plants of a particular cultivar would need to be

kept in order to feasibly have enough plant material for propagation.

Information on general tissue culture techniques for the home hobbyist can be found in Wetherell (1982) and Stoutemyer and Cooke (1989). Detail on commercial micropropagation can be found in deFossard (1976).

New Growth Regulator and African Violets

The potential of tissue culture and its uses has not been fully realized. Experiments with new plants, media, and plant growth regulators continue to disclose important information for both the plant scientist and the commercial grower. Recently, the compound triacontanol (TRIA) has received much attention as a possible plant growth regulator. TRIA is a naturally occurring, wax-like alcohol found in the cuticles and leaves of many plants, in beeswax and in wheat germ. Many experiments with TRIA have shown it to be effective as a growth enhancer when applied directly to foliage in very low concentrations. TRIA was shown to increase the fresh weight of tobacco callus tissue (Hangarter and Ries, 1978) and orchid seedlings grown *in vitro* (Stoutemyer and Cooke, 1987). However, Nair et al. (1988) noted no effect of TRIA on *Kalanchoe* callus culture. In light of these studies and their varying results, a new approach using TRIA and leaf cultures of *Saintpaulia* was attempted in this laboratory.

African violet leaves were disinfected, cut into 10 mm x 10 mm sections and placed on modified MS Stage II multiplication media. The media consisted of a control with no TRIA and two concentrations of TRIA (10^{-3} μ molar and 10^{-4} μ molar). These cultures were grown in controlled light and temperature for three months. The new growth (shoots) were removed and weighed both fresh and after drying. A statistical analysis of the data collected showed no significant difference in weight between the treated and untreated cultures for both fresh and dry weight.

At this point there seems to be no advantage to the inclusion of TRIA in the Stage II medium for micropropagation of African violets, but the possibility exists that it may be useful at some

point in the propagation scheme and this prospect needs to be investigated.

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Plant Portraiture

Laurene Jones
3430 Luttrell Road
Annandale, VA 22003

You have grown a simply beautiful plant for the show; it will never look the same, and like any doting parent, you want to take its picture. You haul out the old camera and snap it, but the results are never quite satisfactory. That is because you were taking snapshots when you should have taken a portrait! The following guidelines should help develop your skills.

Consider first, the equipment. The choice of camera is critical. It is best to work with a 35 mm single lens reflex camera. This means that your view through the eyepiece is the actual view through the lens, relayed by means of mirrors. If you are not sure what type your camera is, look at the front — you should see only the single large lens, no smaller one above or to the side. The SLR camera will also have a light meter that operates through the lens. If you have an automatic camera, use the manual mode. An automatic camera will often pick something other than your target to focus on and this mode is not appropriate for close work. (Who wants focused leaves and blurry blossoms?) The following methods will not work for automatic cameras with no manual mode or for cameras with fixed focus.

When you buy a better camera, you will often

buy just the body and will select the lens separately. If you have no choice, you will often get a 55 mm lens, an all-purpose size. Other kinds of lenses available are wide angles, for a larger view than the 55 mm, in sizes smaller than 55 mm; telephoto, for bringing distant objects nearer, in sizes larger than 55 mm; and macro, for enlarging near objects, again in sizes larger than 55 mm and often as a feature on a telephoto lens. There is a large selection of separate individual lenses available, but you can get an adequate sampling of all these features in one lens. This is a wide angle to telephoto zoom lens with macro. These come in several size combinations and one lens will cover most of your needs, from snapshots to portraiture.

If you are going to want to delve further into the picture, i.e., closeups of blossoms, you will need more magnification than a macro lens will provide. There are a few choices of enlarging equipment. You can add extension tubes between your camera and lens. This effectively makes your lens a longer telephoto lens. A 2X or 3X adapter is a magnifying lens placed between the camera and lens. A third type of magnification is provided by lenses screwed onto the front of the lens. These will come in a set of three

values and are less expensive than the other equipment. They offer a range of magnification and great ease of use. All three of these methods will magnify an object well with minimum distortion, but you will lose some depth of field — the depth of the picture which will be in perfect focus.

The next piece of equipment you won't want to live without is a flash. Here again, you have many kinds to choose from. The simplest form of flash is a flash bulb. This fires, giving its all in one burst of light. You must then adjust your camera's settings to allow it to take in the proper amount of light, no more and no less. The next in line is a simple electronic flash. This is essentially a flash bulb that can fire more than once. It gives a consistent, large amount of light and you adjust your camera. The preferred flash will be an automatic flash (not to be confused with a flash dedicated to an automatic camera, for in this the camera controls both camera and flash settings). In this type, the flash is equipped with a thyristor which senses the amount of light returning to the camera and turns off the flash when a specific amount is sensed. These may have two or more modes which provide different amounts of light, or may have a sliding scale which achieves the same result.

The final piece of basic equipment is the tripod. This will be necessary for convenience for taking many pictures in the same setup and for taking slow shots.

Once you have collected your equipment, you must make several decisions about setting up your portrait. First consider the type of light you will be using to exposure your film. It is possible to adequately expose film with available light. You can use bright fluorescent lights, but the colors will be skewed toward blue. Similarly, incandescent will add too much red value. You can haul all your paraphernalia into the yard and use sunlight. From early morning until late afternoon, sunlight constantly varies in color components. Clouds will further change the color of what you see as white light (but your camera is more discriminating than your eye). A second consideration is the impossibility of controlling the position of the shadow. An electronic flash will give you consistent color makeup equivalent to midday

sunlight.

Once you have decided to use flash, there are still other considerations to decide upon. If you will be using a single flash unit, will it be mounted on the camera or held in another position? Very good pictures can be taken of a plant with a camera-mounted flash. Pictures of the convention show plants for slide programs are taken this way. The shadows will be directly opposite to the camera lens. If you are photographing a large African violet, the shadow of the blossoms will fall onto the leaves, which is perfectly acceptable. In a more complex plant, such as a trailing columnea, you might want the light source to be above the camera. You can achieve this by bouncing the light emitted by the flash (which is pointed toward the reflector) off a reflective flat surface angled toward the subject or off a curved reflective surface likewise aimed. The curve focuses the light for more intensity and the flat spreads for wider coverage. This is one giant step beyond basic photography, but you have at least been introduced to the possibility. Another possibility is removing the flash from the camera. There are connector cords which will allow your flash to remain connected to the electrical signal from the camera while physically positioned elsewhere. If you are using an automatic flash whose thyristor remains on the camera, it will deliver the perfect amount of light automatically. If the thyristor remains on the flash, you must be sure the flash is the same distance from the subject as the camera. Only then will the light registered on the thyristor be equivalent to the light reaching the lens. A prime reason for "remoting" the flash is a reflective surface which would cause a glare in your picture, such as a terrarium. Another could be for effect. A flash directly above a complex plant makes the bottom of the plant (and incidentally often the pot) recede or even disappear. A flash below a blossom or slightly behind a blossom will highlight it and can be a beautiful effect. In an extreme closeup, it may be necessary to hold the flash farther back than the camera to ensure that the light falls on the subject instead of above it. In the same case, you may need to hold the flash back to avoid overexposure from too much light. This is one of many areas in which

PRACTICE is very valuable. Play with your camera and learn.

As if you weren't confused enough, there is another monkey wrench to throw in. You can use MORE light sources! Oh boy! One major point — multiple flashes should be the same type, either simple or automatic. Of course, you want all your lights to go off at the same time, so they must be synchronized in some way. You could use a complex arrangement of cords, but a slave sensor is easier. This is a small sensor that attaches below the flash where it normally attaches to the camera. It is a good idea to mount this extra flash on a tripod. When the light from the primary flash reaches the sensor, it fires the secondary flash. If both are simple flashes, you must open the lens only half as much as for one flash. If both are automatic, they will shut off when the film is properly exposed as long as both are set to the same mode or percentage of full capacity (the sliding scale mentioned before under types of flash). Now that you have decided to use supplementary light, where will you put all your sources? The primary may be on the camera with the secondary filling in the shadows from one side or above. They may both be remote from the camera on two sides, either level with or above the plant. Play around with the possibilities.

WHEW! Light is a complex subject. The next aspect of the physical setup is the setting and the background. Would a professional photographer take your portrait in the midst of a crowd or a cluttered office? Eliminate clutter in the back of your subject and on the table. Do not include ribbons with the plant. It is best to set the plant up in a niche and to drape the niche with cloth. Flat sides and angles in a niche are distracting in a portrait, soft folds are more unobtrusive. The drape should have a flat, not shiny, finish and be a color that will enhance and not war with the colors of the plant. This will take some experimenting to determine what matches your taste. Once you have picked a color and texture, how will you arrange the cloth? Will you have a smooth slant or many graceful folds? It will depend on the subject and will be a personal decision. The last aspect of this setup is the placement of the subject. If you place the plant flat on the table, you will have to

shoot from above to get a good picture of its "face." A 30° angle would be a good tilt and there are many ways to support the plant securely, such as a wire holder or slanted wooden support with an edge to keep the plant from slipping off. It can be as simple as a block of wood under the back of the pot, just be careful. It is usually more attractive to drape the support — just put the support under the drape. Be sure to rotate the plant to put its best side forward — look through the lens and you'll be surprised at the way small problems will jump out at you. Have a helper rotate the plant as you watch. Arrange the plant so that the point you want to emphasize is to the upper right of the center of the frame. This is the focal area.

You have the equipment and the shot is set up. Now you must prepare the equipment. First in importance is the film. The following guidelines will be true whether you are taking prints or slides. There are many kinds of film, some for specific special effects. We will consider only daylight-type film. This is film formulated to be exposed in the full spectrum of noontime daylight. Indoors you will need a flash to properly expose this. All films will bear an ISO number. This is a system describing the film speed — the lower the number, the more light is needed to expose it properly (slower). The higher numbers need less light (faster), but in using them you sacrifice clarity for they are grainier. A photograph which will be enlarged or a slide which will be projected on a large screen will suffer from grainy film. So, a compromise between light level and texture must be reached. A last consideration would be the f-stop necessary for closeups, which will be explained below.

Beyond the ISO number choice, there is a choice in the type of film. For example, Kodak puts out two color slide formulations — Ektachrome and Kodachrome. The first is formulated to enhance blue values and the latter red values. Very good if you want fuchsia blossoms to be redder or yellowed leaves to be greener, but not much for absolute truth. The differences are not extreme and you should use both types to see what you prefer. Kodachrome 25 (ISO) is not like the rest of Kodachrome and was especially designed to be the truest color

reproduction. Just recently it has been released as print film in addition to the slide film previously offered. This has given very good results for the author, but it requires a great deal of light.

Now! the film is in the camera. On the top of the camera is a dial which must be set to the ISO number of the film. Next select a shutter speed and set it on the dial on top of the camera. 1/60th second is the camera speed which is synchronized to the electronic flash. At a slower speed than 1/60th you must set the camera on a tripod, because the movement of your body in breathing will blur the image. Faster speeds would be used in bright daylight.

Next the flash. Mount it on the camera (or however you haven chosen to set it up) and set its dial for the film's ISO. Consult the manual to choose a mode or percentage output to match the distance from the subject and the available f-stops on the camera. For example, one flash has four modes, each for a different range of distances from the camera. For closeups you will be using the closest mode. This will be the one requiring the highest f-stop. On a sliding scale, it will be the lowest percentage of full light discharge. If you are using a moderately fast film, even the lowest mode may put out too much light for the f-stops available on your lens. Either use a slower film or hold the flash back farther from the subject. For a simple flash, read from the dial on the flash what f-stop is required for the distance to the subject. Set the f-stop ring to the number you determined.

F-STOP! That term came in several times without explanation. There is a movable ring on the lens close to the body of the camera. This has numbers on it ranging from about 2 to 16 or 22. These correspond to the diameter of the lens when it opens. 2 is wide open, admitting very divergent light rays and this results in less depth of field. 22 is very narrow and light entering is more nearly parallel rays and yields a greater depth of field. Thus the highest possible f-stop is the best for extreme closeups, because the difference in sharpness could mean from the front of a blossom to the back. If you are using available light, rotate the f-stop ring until the light meter in the view of the lens indicates sufficient light. If there isn't enough light with

the lens wide open, move the shutter speed to a slower speed and adjust the f-stop ring again. Conversely, if there is too much light, set for a higher speed.

It is a good idea to bracket your shots for an important shot. This means to shoot at the f-stop called for and to shoot additional frames at one f-stop on either side of this. There will be varied effects from the change. This is another area for experiment. This becomes especially important when you add those closeup attachments. They all require more light than the primary lens and you need to experiment to determine how much more. For example, using all three outer lenses together requires the author to halve the f-stop for a good exposure.

Everything has been set up; you're ready to shoot. Turn the lens until the subject is in clear focus. Move the zoom lens or the camera until the subject nearly fills the frame, very little empty space. Be sure your focal point is a little to the upper right of center. Press the shutter release and you're done! You might want to try several processors for your film — some are much better than others. I wish you many beautiful portraits of your darlings.



Kathy Mathews of the Evening African Violet Club of Des Moines, IA is shown with her Special Exhibit for a recent show. She made a replica of a typical home and demonstrated the "do's" and "don'ts" for growing violets. In each room notes were displayed. They told of the need for clean leaves, with an occasional washing, the value of artificial light versus natural light, the dangers of gas fumes, and the amount of light, humidity and nutrients needed.



Fredette's Midway

IRENE FREDETTE

Ming Dynasty



A Family Portrait

Geogene Albrecht
101 Oak Heights Drive
Oakdale, PA 15071



There are about 125 genera and more than 2,000 species in the plant family called *Gesneriaceae*. Since we wish to expand our horizons, let's look at family terminology as well as pronunciation. The name *Gesneriaceae* is pronounced either "gez-neer-ee-AY-see-ee" or "jez-neer-ee-AY-see-ee." There is an ongoing debate as to whether the soft or hard "g" prevails. Please, stay with me through this copy. It is so important to use proper names for clarity and proper classification. Many of our members may never have heard this word and it is very difficult to reprogram mispronunciations. The name *Gesneriaceae* (go ahead, say it) was the suggestion of a French botanist, Charles Plumier, who, in 1693 wished to bestow honor upon the name of Konrad Gesner (1516-1565), a Swiss naturalist.

Genera (JEN-er-a) is the plural form of genus (JEE-nus) which is the largest subdivision of a family. Each genus will contain one or more species. "Species" (SPEE-sheez) is both the singular and plural form of the word. This is the smallest division of plant(s) and animal(s), most of which have similar organisms and are often capable of interbreeding. *Gesneriaceae* are terrestrials, meaning they grow in or on the earth, and epiphytes, plants that grow on trees. About 300 species and many more hybrids are in cultivation. The word "cultivar" may be used to describe a hybrid or a select variety.

Good records, a library, correspondence and slides are valuable resources. Two books that you will want in your gesneriad library are: "The Miracle Houseplants" by Virginie F. and George A. Elbert, from Crown Publishers, Inc., New York, NY 1984, and "African Violets,

Gloxinias, and their Relatives," by Harold E. Moore, Jr., The MacMillan Co., New York, NY, 1957. This last book was a gift from a precious woman who has reached her 75th year. She urged me to pass it on to a worthy person when I'm in my 75th year. Isn't this wonderful! Perhaps we could leave such treasures to our local club or garden center libraries.

Gesneriads are a houseplant miracle. What other family has such fabulous foliage or is able to bloom 12 months of the year? Certainly not the largest family, orchid. My gesneriads have top priority. Cattleya orchid plants bloom for only three weeks and the remaining 49 weeks they resemble a huge clump of skinny, yellow beaver tails... ugly. Just give me a little *Sinningia pusilla* in a four-inch glass bubble and I'll show you everblooming happiness. *S. pusilla* is a species. Most of the time you see an Italicized name without a capital letter — it will be a species. Genus will be capitalized *Italic*. A cultivar or hybrid name is not Italicized, but it will be in single quote signs. For example, when you write a label for *Sinningia 'White Sprite'* it is best to add the quotes. If you ever see two or more plant names with an "X" it designates the pod parent and the pollen parent of a hybrid.

About the time you read this it will be prime season for putting down Achimenes (a-KIM-en-eez) rhizomes (RI-zome-z). They are available through Park Seed, Cokesbury Road, Greenwood, SC 29647-0001. The rhizomes make such sturdy growths when planted whole, yet each "scale" is also capable of growth if planted separately. Achimenes come in many growth sizes, too. Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses produced the small *A. 'Tiny Pink'* and

'Tiny Blue' which are small growing foliage with delicate flowers. Another variety, *A. 'Camille Brozzoni'*, is larger, but very compact in growth habit. It produces a dozen blooms at the twin axils. I just can't rave enough about *A. 'Desiree'*, the double red variety. If you can grow other hanging basket specimens, you will just adore these gesneriads.

Gesneria (ges-NEER-ee-a) is a genera of around 35 of which, only a few are cultivated. Linneaus described these as both herbaceous and shrub. They are mostly from the West Indies and Central America. This tells us that they like it hot, humid and bright. *Gesneria cuneifolia* cv. 'Quebradillas' and 'Esperanza' have orange and yellow blooms all year. They can fill a ten-inch glass bubble in no time at all. When they get a "neck," take a tip cutting, disbud, remove aging leaves and replant in fresh soil in a container that is sealed. Put a generous pinch of dolomite lime in the growing medium because these fellows are accustomed to limestone in their natural habitat. *G. 'Lemon Drop'*, a hybrid of *cuneifolia* and *citrina*, exhibits bright yellow, tubular flowers. *G. 'Sun Drop'* is said to be an improvement on this. Small-growing *Gesneria* resent overfertilization as well as a dry root system. My favorite fertilizer for these container grown plants is a product named "Watch Us Grow," an 8-8-8 formula bottled in liquid concentrate. It is distributed by Watch Us Grow of Kentucky, Inc., 110 Flat Rock Rd., Anchorage, KY 40223.



Gesneria 'Lemon Drop'

Alsobia (al-so-Bee-a), *dianthaflora* (DYE-an-the-flo-ra) and *punctata* (punk-TAY-ta) were once classified as Episcias. These charming trailers have soft, velveteen, scalloped leaves. *A. dianthaflora* forms a rosette that develops many stolons. These are similar to the runners on strawberries or certain Saxafraga. Unlike *Episcias*, *Alsobias* are more tolerant of less humidity and lower temperatures. *Alsobias* are also great companion baskets for *Achimenes*. The startling white, extremely fringed blooms are awesome. Some of them have heavy spotting of purple in the throat and lobes. *A. 'Cygnets'* is the most popular hybrid and is a great houseplant. Texts tell me that they like only 250 to 300 footcandles of light, yet, mine will not bloom in such a low intensity. They do best in natural light as opposed to fluorescent and the wetter the better.

Streptocarpus (strep-toe-CAR-puss), is a large genus, originating in Africa and Malagasy Republic (Madagascar). They grow at elevations of three to five thousand feet, so, they like it cool and airy compared to other gesneriads. The ones we cultivate the most have nodding trumpet flowers and long strap leaves. They thrive out of doors in a shady nook but watch out for the mealybug. A subgenus is *Streptocarpella* (strep-toe-CAR-pell-ah) whose hybrids do well in magnificent hanging baskets. *S. 'Powder Blue'*, hybridized by Schwarz, roots easily and, if pinched once or twice, fills a basket rapidly. I think that these do better in natural light. Cuttings for the next spring are kept in my light garden over winter. The entire genus seems to be sensitive to pesticides and pollution.

Thanks to the officers, staff and committee, for reproducing Sue Hill's lovely *Sinningia speciosa* in glorious color and for extending family ties through this column. Jane's words to me are very kind, but I do not consider myself an expert on anything with names like Crisafulli, Tapping and Bradford floating around. I just enjoy growing gesneriads for the pure pleasure of it. If you do too, send me your comments on methods and plants. Commercial growers, remember to send me your list of plant material that might be available. I'll list you as a source of gesneriads.



Carol's Trailers

Carol
Sotkiewicz
Toledo, OH

Lambs Ears

Fantasy Pixie • Pink Pixie



AVSA Commercials

A Closer Look

David Butram
P. O. Box 193
Independence, MO 64051



Mary's Violet Joy

Come along with me today to the home of John and Mary Gall in Leawood, Kansas. It is from the basement of the Gall home that Mary sells and ships her specialty — "Standards, Minis and Trailers of Proven Show Quality."

Mary was introduced to African violets about eight years ago when a friend gave her a beautiful plant. The friend, Ann Pankratz, had worked with Mary in Girl Scouts and knew of her love for plants.

A visit to a flower show in nearby Kansas City resulted in the addition of *Tommie Lou*, *Summer Butterfly*, and *Ms Pretty* to Mary's plant stand.

In 1982, Mary joined AVSA and became active in Kansas City's Mid-America African Violet Society. Her first AVSA convention was in Milwaukee and she has attended several since.

In about 1985, husband John began traveling more as an architect for Macy's, overseeing construction of new stores. Their two children, Beth and Kenny were preparing to go away to college, when Mary got an early jump on the "empty nest syndrome." She decided to grow and sell African violets and growing supplies.

Thus, Mary's Violet Joy was established. Joy in the name came from Mary's mother's middle name. She was a mother who loved her flowers and gardens. Mary would often upset her mother by bringing home wild flowers and transplanting them among the plants that had been so carefully nurtured.

Mary also remembers that her mother grew some non-descript single blue flowered African violets in their Topeka, Kansas home.

At the AVSA convention in Kansas City last May, Mary exhibited *Lucy Locket* which is one of her seedlings. It won! It won big by being judged the Best New Cultivar in the Commercial Specimen Plant Section. Mary is justifiably proud and is optimistic about the future release of *Baby Jayhawk* and *Baby Jay*.

A look at Mary's 1990 listing reveals her desire of offering quality varieties from America's best. She lists winners from Boone,



Mary Gall shows a sale plant.



Capillary matting is used by Mary Gall.

Fredette, Cox, Bryant, Pittman, Robinson and Albert Adams of Canada.

One of her favorite hybridizers is Ruby Cox of Bethany, Missouri. The two women are friends from the time they were in African violet clubs together in Kansas City.

I think it will be interesting to check on Ruby's work in hybridizing. So, Bethany, Missouri, here we come ...

Ruby Cox

Ruby and Charles Cox live on the edge of town which is located in north central Missouri not far from the Iowa line. Born and raised in the area, Ruby returned to the serenity of a small town after raising five children in the hustle of Kansas City. Now retired from Singer Co., she is able to focus her energies and attention on her plants.

By distributing her new and proven varieties to only three growers, she relieves the pressure of growing in large numbers.

Dottie Wilson (Wilson's Plant Haven), Genola Cox (no relation) of The Violet Express and Mary Gall carry the latest cultivars from Ruby.

Many of Ruby's plants have the name "Mama" as part of the name. This came about while searching with her daughter for new and suitable names. Looking up possible names in the AVSA Master Variety List was frustrating. It seemed as though all the good names had been taken. The daughter said, "Mother, everything's been used." Then she added, "You are a mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother; let's use "Mama." They did and several "Mama" plants are showing up on lists and in shows around the country.

Although the two women are independent of each other, they are friends and share several common similarities. They have supportive husbands and each loves to attend AVSA conventions and shows. Both growers love to hy-



Ruby Cox carefully repotting a plant.

bridize and exhibit the fruits of their labors at area African violet shows.

The next time you see the name of Mary's Violet Joy or the "Mama" series at a show or in print, remember the women who made them

possible.

Thank you for your continued support of this column.

Your comments and suggestions are always appreciated. See you in Boston.

What Promotes Variegation In African Violets

— *an experiment*

Kyle Coleman
2912 Buckskin Run #602
Fort Worth, Texas 76116

Purpose

The purpose of this experiment is to investigate some of the environmental/cultural conditions that are believed to promote variegation in African violets.

Introduction

The environmental/cultural conditions that promote variegated growth in African violets have not been clearly identified or understood. Three particular conditions that may have an effect, to one extent or another, on the degree of African violet variegation are temperature, extra nitrogen, and extra phosphorous. These three variables will be investigated in this experiment. The three conditions or variables will be separated for analysis in relatively simple ways so that the results of this investigation may be applied directly to the growth of African violets in a typical household. Even though the conclusions drawn from the results of this experiment will be limited due to the relatively small number of plants used, the results should provide some measure of insight into the conditions that promote variegation.

Equipment and Materials

9 "identical" variegated African violet starter plants

1 three-shelf plant stand with identical fluorescent lights

9 identical pots filled with the same soil mix

1 package of 15-30-15 AV food (Volkmann

constant feed)

1 package of 12-36-14 AV food (Peter's constant feed)

1 package of fish emulsion sticks (Wilson's Violet Haven brand)

9 plant wicks

Variables

As stated before, the three variables have been separated for analysis in relatively simple ways so that the results of this investigation may be applied directly to growth of the houseplant African violet. Because warm air rises, the top shelf of a three-tiered plant stand (with lights) should remain the warmest, the next shelf somewhat cooler with the bottom shelf remaining coolest. Thus, temperature is one variable of this experiment. The second variable is the relatively higher phosphorous in the 12-36-14 fertilizer. The third variable is the extra nitrogen supplied by the fish emulsion sticks.

Procedure

Obtain nine African violets of the same variety and size that were grown by the same grower. Using plant wicks, pot six of them into new (but identical) pots using the same soil mix. Label these pots as numbers 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, and 8. Again using plant wicks, pot the other three into the pots identical to the other pots, but include the fish emulsion sticks (at the recommended dosage) in these pots. Label these pots as numbers 3, 6, and 9. Grow these plants on the



The beginning.

plant stand in the positions indicated in Figure 1. Use the 15-30-15 fertilizer as recommended on numbers 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 9. Use the 12-36-14 fertilizer as recommended on numbers 1, 4, and 7. Each plant must be grown with the same amount of light, as discussed below. For best results, it is recommended that the violets be grown under these conditions for four to 12 months.

Special Lighting Considerations

Special care must be taken to eliminate light as a variable in this experiment. All of the fluorescent tubes used in this experiment must be the same type (as in "cool white," "soft white," etc.) to ensure that each plant receives the same frequency spectrum of light. To ensure each plant receives the same quantity of light, the plants must be placed the same distance from the lights. None of the plants should be within six inches of the end of the light tubes. (Fluorescent tubes are dimmer at the end than in the

middle.) Because fluorescent tubes become dimmer with use, the tubes should be new or have been used for the same lengths of time. The lights on each shelf must be on for the same amount of time each day so that no shelf receives light for a longer period of time than another. Following these instructions will minimize lighting variations.

Results

The results of this experiment may be seen in the new foliage grown by the test violets. Since violet leaves generally do not become more (or less) variegated as they grow out from the crown, the variegation of the outer leaves that were present on the plants prior to the experiment is not as important as the variegation of the new leaves toward the center of each plant.

The specific results described here were observed of violets grown for four and a half months. The experiment was begun on 5 November 1988 and ended 20 March 1989. The specific violet selected for this experiment was Munk's Apache Feathers (AVSA #6131). Because the violets were grown for foliage, the violets were all continuously disbudded so that the blossoms and blossom stalks could not hide or mar the foliage.

Three particular traits are of special interest: plant size, relative degree of variegation, and color of variegation. The largest plants on two of the three shelves were the ones given extra nitrogen. The largest plant was the middle shelf, extra nitrogen plant. The plants exhibit-

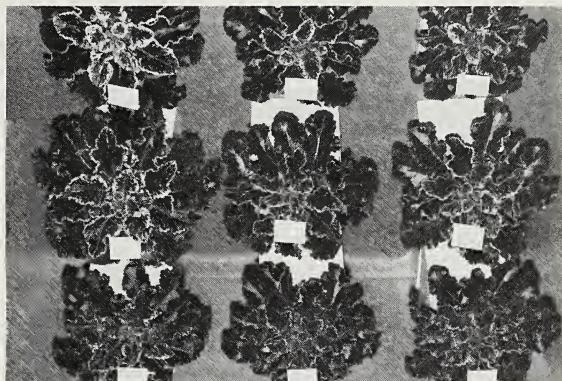
TOP SHELF	PLANT 1	PLANT 2	PLANT 3
FERTILIZER	12-36-14	15-30-15	15-30-15 Fish Sticks
MIDDLE SHELF	PLANT 4	PLANT 5	PLANT 6
FERTILIZER	12-36-14	15-30-15	15-30-15 Fish Sticks
BOTTOM SHELF	PLANT 7	PLANT 8	PLANT 9
FERTILIZER	12-36-14	15-30-15	15-30-15 Fish Sticks

Figure 1 -- Violet Fertilizers and Positions.

ing the highest degree of variegation (of the center leaves) are the bottom shelf plants. The center leaves of the top shelf plants had the least percent of colored area to green area. The plants given extra nitrogen had the lowest amount of pink pigment in their leaves, while the three plants given the high phosphorous fertilizer had the most.

Conclusions

Even though the conclusions drawn from the results of this experiment will be limited due to the relatively small number of plants used, four conclusions may be drawn from this experiment concerning the growth of Munk's Apache Feathers. Extra nitrogen tends to promote increased foliage growth. A greater degree of variegation tends to be promoted by the cooler temperatures of a lower shelf of a plant stand. The presence of foliage color (other than green or white) tends to be promoted by relatively



The end.

higher phosphorous. Conversely, whiter variegation tends to be promoted by relatively lower phosphorous levels. ♀

Creating Your Own Cultivars

Dolores Larsen
10503 SE 232nd St.
Kent, WA 98031

Hybridizing is fun and there's little or nothing that can compare with the wild anticipation that surfaces when a seedling first produces a bud. Should you try it? First be aware that:

1. It will take a lot of space. Do you have room for all the seedlings and for the testing of the 2nd and 3rd generations of the best plants?

2. Extra time will be needed to repot, water and care for those extra plants.

3. It will require patience — waiting six to nine months for the seed pod to ripen, waiting for the seedlings to appear, potting each tiny seedling individually, waiting for the blossoms to appear and keeping records of the dates of the cross, the seeding and other observations.

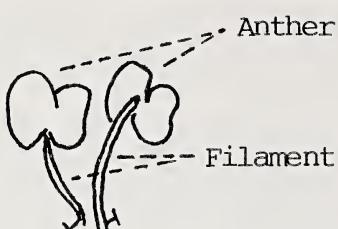
4. It will require a critical eye and the capability to throw out beautiful plants which are not so different from others already on the market.

Are you ready to begin? The first step is in trying to visualize your goal and in selecting the parent plants. At least one parent should have

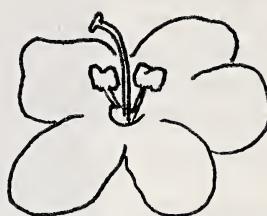
easily managed foliage; when choosing the flower type consider color, size, quantity, health and strength. Remember that any of the resulting seedlings can be crossed again with a sibling, a parent or another plant not previously used. Each successive cross should bring you closer to that final goal.

It makes no difference which plant you use for the mother (seed parent) or the father (pollen-producing parent) however the best seed parent will be one with a single or semidouble blossom for they are easier to work with. If you want variegated foliage the seed parent *must* be variegated.

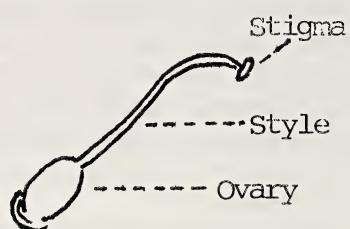
Each African violet blossom has both male and female organs. The female organ is the pistil, containing the stigma, the style and the ovary. The male organ, the stamen, consists of the filament and the anther. When the stigma is ready for pollination a tiny drop of a sticky substance becomes visible. Use a hand-lens if



Stamen
(Male Organ)



Blossom



Pistil
(Female Organ)

you can not see this clearly. The pollen is contained inside the yellow anther sac. Following are the steps required to pollinate:

1. Snip off an anther from the male parent, place it on a piece of paper, then open it with scissors or a razor blade. If it is ready, a powdery substance will fall or shake out onto the paper — this is the pollen.

2. Use any object, such as a paintbrush or even a thumbnail, (I generally use a pair of tweezers, picking up the open anther, coating it with the powdery pollen) to transfer the pollen to the sticky stigma.

3. Attach a string label to the blossom stem showing the name of the seed parent X the name of the male parent and the date pollinated.

Nature takes over after that and in a few days the seed pod begins to swell. The seeds begin to ripen and in six months or so the swelling will have stopped; the seed pod starts to dry, will shrink a bit in size and will lose its color, turning slightly brown. The ripened seed pod is then removed from the plant. The seeds may be sown immediately or may be placed in a warm, dry place until you are ready to plant. Generally I place ripened pods in an unsealed envelope, writing the cross and date on the outside, until I am ready to plant using the following steps:

1. On a piece of paper, open the seed pod containing many, many seeds.

2. Prepare a well drained container using about 1/4" of a good seeding mix on top of your plant soil. (I use my regular soilless potting mix which is a combination of peat moss, perlite and vermiculite, putting it through a fine sieve, sift-

ing it, thereby turning it into a seeding mix.) Be sure your mix is thoroughly moist.

3. Sprinkle the seed onto the top of the seeding mixture — do not cover with additional mix. Place a piece of clear plastic or other clear lid on top of your container to retain moisture. Set it in a warm, light place and wait for those tiny leaves to appear.

4. If the mix starts to dry, use a fine spray of warm water. When four or more leaves appear, plant each tiny plant in a small 1-3/4" pot, using a nut pick to gently loosen the roots. Once these start growing in separate pots and are on a fertilizer program, real progress will be made in growth.

5. Almost before you know it, these will ready for a 3" pot. Be sure to label each with a code number devised for your records.

You will be pleased with your own plants but remember you will not keep them all. First, get rid of the singles which drop blossoms unless a certain plant is one you wish to consider in future hybridizing. Keep only those other plants which are superior in some way to those plants already on the market.

If one of your plants is exceptional, you may want to reserve a name and do the testing necessary to assure that it is stable and will come true from a leaf. If, after testing, it proves to be a great plant, you may register the name with AVSA. The AVSA Registrar will send you rules for this procedure. If you do not intend to market the plant yourself, perhaps you can interest one of our commercial members in its marketing. Good Luck!

A Thrips Trip

Walt Maurus
P. O. Box 2247
Livonia, MI 48150

It is common knowledge that insects are pollinators of plants. So it should be no surprise that thrips are very efficient pollinators. There are hundreds of species world-wide and it has been reported that thrips are primary pollinators of *Saintpaulia* species in Africa. Thrips belong to the insect order Thysanoptera (Thigh-san-oh-teer-ah). *Ptera* means wings and the total means "tassel wings."

Thrips are detected on flowers, usually, and are tiny. So tiny that they might be overlooked. If a bit of "dust" on your violet flower moves — it's probably a thrips. By the way, THIRPS is both plural and singular. A thrips is a thrips is a thrips. Like SPECIES is also plural and singular. And, if you see one thrips on your plant's flower you can bet that it is also plural! If you see one ...

Another way to detect the presence of thrips is that they chew into the yellow pollen-sacs of your violet flowers and their activity spills the pollen on the flower petals making them look dusty or powdered. Thrips doing that on a potential show plant could be devastating — but maybe I didn't have to tell you that.

Mealy bugs are pretty easy to destroy because they aren't very mobile. But thrips are VERY mobile. They run, jump and fly — as tiny as they are. One seen can be pinched between thumb and finger; if you catch it. When disturbed, a thrips will run for the petal edge and disappear underneath. But as was said, where there's one, there are more. Blow on the flower and more may be seen running outward from the center of the flower toward the "safety" of the underside of the petal. There they could "desert the ship" if things get too threatening.

Thrips are a major threat to greenhouse or large quantity growers who depend on growing insect-damage-free plants for sale. However, thrips are actually more a nuisance than a threat to home growers as compared to such as

mites or soil mealy bugs which are much more insidious. You don't see them until great damage is done.

A most effective treatment is to remove all buds and flowers once thrips are seen on a plant's flowers. Buds, too, because somehow, thrips can be found in buds before they open. I suppose they chew their way inside. You could spray flowers with insecticide but sprays usually diminish or destroy the beauty of the flowers anyhow, so remove buds and flowers. Spray the plant every few days as eggs may have been hatching on the plant. Let the next set of blossoms open but if thrips are seen (blow on the flowers) repeat the disbudding process.

There may be one advantage for the home grower if thrips are present. If the little buggers do manage to create a seedpod, let it mature and then plant the seeds. You may not know the parentage for sure, but if you plant the seeds, who knows, if may mean a whole new career for you — a thrips trip.

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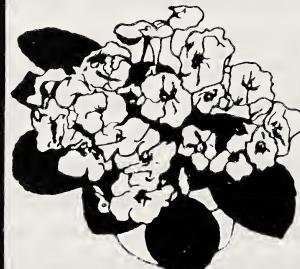
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Send \$1.00 (refundable with your first order) for our descriptive list of old favorites and 1990 Violet Fantasy releases. And don't miss our Early Bird Special!!!
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ROB'S & PITTMAN WEE ONES, THE HALO
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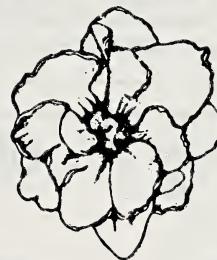
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IF THERE IS SOMETHING FROM OUR LIST YOU WOULD LIKE BROUGHT TO THE CONVENTION WRITE OR CALL AND WE WILL FILL YOUR ORDER AND HAVE IT READY FOR YOU IN BOSTON.

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3"-3 1/2"-4" round tubs have rolled rims

SIZE	COLOR	TYPE	10	25	50	100	500
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2-1/4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	.95	1.80	3.30	6.00	26.40
2-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	1.05	1.95	3.60	6.60	30.00
3"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.20	2.75	4.80	9.00	41.50
3-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.35	3.30	6.00	11.40	52.00
4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.75	3.85	7.20	13.50	59.40
4-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.40	5.60	8.00	15.50	73.00
5"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.70	5.90	11.40	20.75	94.00
6"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	3.40	8.20	15.00	27.70	125.00
6-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	3.80	8.60	16.60	30.50	132.00

MINIATURIZING MINI POTS WITH SAUCER

1-1/4"	Terracotta	3.00	6.25	11.50	20.00	80.00
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PLASTIC HEAVY DUTY POT SAUCERS

3-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	1.35	3.30	6.00	11.40	
4"	Gr. or Wt.	2.25	5.25	9.00	16.80	
5"	Gr. or Wt.	2.65	5.85	11.10	20.75	
6"	Gr. or Wt.	3.60	8.60	15.80	29.00	

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(recessed snap-on-lids) 16 oz (wicks not included) 32 oz	2.75	6.50	12.00	21.90	98.90	
	4.25	10.00	19.35	36.00	147.95	

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4" White, Green, Blue, Lavender, Pink.	1.00	4.75	7.00	
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4 1/2" White only	1.50	7.00	13.00	
	2.00	9.00	17.00	

PLASTIC HANGING PLANTERS

4-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	1	5	10	25	50	
5-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	3-1/8" Deep	.70	3.10	5.60	12.75	23.00
6"	Gr. or Wt.	3-1/8" Deep	.90	4.20	7.80	18.00	33.60
8"	Gr. or Wt.	4-1/4" Deep	1.05	5.10	9.70	22.80	43.20
10"	Gr. or Wt.	5" Deep	1.30	6.30	12.00	28.80	55.00
		6-1/4" Deep	1.80	8.70	16.80	40.00	78.00

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4" x 8" x 2-1/2"	1	6	12	25	50	
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8" x 12" x 2-1/2"	1.25	7.25	13.75			
22" x 11" x 2-3/4"	1.35	7.50	13.80			
13" x 15" x 3-1/2"	3.99	23.00	45.00			
	4.25	24.50	48.00			

PLASTIC TRAYS - No Holes

25-1/2" x 13-1/2" x 3-3/16"	Gr. or Wt.	3.25	18.50	35.00	67.00	
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Mini (6")	Gr. only	.90	4.75	8.50	16.25	29.00
9"	Gr. only	1.00	5.00	9.00	17.50	33.50
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Excellent for starting leaves and small plants.						
Use 3 tsp. per gal. water. 4 oz. bottle - \$2.75 each;						
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12" Diameter - \$6.75 each						
White - Brown - Beige - Terra-cotta						

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Formula	Type	Size/Price
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Vermiculite	No. 2 Coarse	5 qts. 16 qts.
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\$2.25 per running yard --- whole yard lengths		

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8 oz. BOUNTY,

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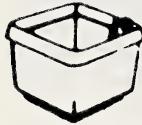
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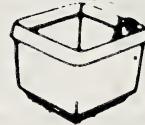
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307 Cobalt Halo
306 Coral Halo
737 Crushed Velvet
368 Dancing Halo
365 Garnet Halo
196 Heir Apparent
213 Light Fantastic
366 Neon Halo
206 Phantom Flash
367 Sassy Halo

BRYANT

359 Avalanche
355 Christine
87 Texas

CROTEAU

228 Angelia Marie
225 Charline
173 Jean-Pierre
Croteau
199 L'Ange Bleu
224 Louise Croteau
171 Ma Gigl

FREDETTE

1990 Releases:
212 Crinoline

318 Feather	326 Fr. Risen Star	319 Hot Tomato	208 Jillian	185 Tie Dyed
320 Hot Tomato	319 Hot Tomato	208 Jillian	166 Jingles	729 Cutie
329 Ming Dynasty	336 Purr Pink	309 Midway	203 Star Tales	187 Plum Velvet
336 Purr Pink	340 Autumn Lace	309 Midway	310 Tiger's Son	340 Autumn Lace
262 Chiffon Print	360 Cinnamon Girl	222 Big Country	72 Cherry Topping	322 Big Country
285 Fr. Moon Flower	153 Coral Kiss	198 Blueberry Mint	317 Leprech'n Daydr'm	364 Apache Flame
141 Glittersweet	190 Coral Mountain	198 Blueberry Mint	217 Leprech'n Daydr'm	311 Apache Glory
344 Heartland	109 Fickle Flirt	153 Coral Kiss	317 Lightning Strikes	300 Apache Mystery
323 Sunset Rose	92 Firewalker	190 Coral Mountain	214 Apache Secret	315 Apache Spring
320 Winter Wine	220 Grand Lady (LGH)	109 Fickle Flirt	721 Rob's Pal Paul	313 Ellen Griffins Pride
	221 Green Lace	92 Firewalker	754 Rob's Pink Satin	Robinson (mini & semi)
	314 Ice Dancing	221 Green Lace	753 Rob's Pinky Winky	758 Rob's Almost Sinful
	186 Kings Treasure	314 Ice Dancing	762 Rob's Silver Spook	759 Rob's Artful Dodger
	120 Crystallaire	186 Kings Treasure	760 Rob's Sundae Scoop	732 Rob's Blue Moon
	177 Dusty Lace	217 Leprech'n Daydr'm	757 Rob's Vanilla Pink	763 Rob's Ember Glow
	123 Fantasy Jewel	317 Lightning Strikes	715 Rob's Whimsical	761 Rob's Pal Paul
	221 Fantasy Sensation	217 Leprech'n Daydr'm	754 Rob's Pink Satin	753 Rob's Pinky Winky
	167 Fantasy Sprite	305 Positively Passion	753 Rob's Whimsical	762 Rob's Silver Spook
	219 Grand Lady (GG)	236 Red Petticoats	753 Rob's Whimsical	760 Rob's Sundae Scoop
	181 Julie Ann	361 Red Sleigh	753 Rob's Whimsical	757 Rob's Vanilla Pink
	205 Lavender Charm	281 Sheer Romance	753 Rob's Whimsical	715 Rob's Whimsical
	118 Memphis Magic	230 Shockwave	753 Rob's Whimsical	757 Rob's Vanilla Pink
	279 Ming Blue	298 Snow Squall	753 Rob's Whimsical	715 Rob's Whimsical
	162 Ming White	176 Space Dust	753 Rob's Whimsical	757 Rob's Vanilla Pink
	83 Morning Shadows	218 Strawberry Moon	753 Rob's Whimsical	715 Rob's Whimsical
	227 Pearl White	175 Such-A-Flirt	753 Rob's Whimsical	757 Rob's Vanilla Pink
	259 Picturesque	229 Sundance	753 Rob's Whimsical	715 Rob's Whimsical

DEPT AV

272 Wildfire

MUNK

LYON/SORANO

ROBINSON

GRANGER GARDENS

SWIFT	182 Birmini Sparkler
247 Dumplin	112 Canadian Sunset
137 French Lilac	116 Chris
363 Apache Canyon	332 Cloudy Skies
361 Apache Celebration	239 Rose Embroidery
362 Apache Dream	168 Coral Fantasy
304 Apache Eagle	209 Devil May Care
316 Apache Face	170 Whirlwind
364 Apache Flame	193 Floralie
311 Apache Glory	358 Frosted Whisper
300 Apache Mystery	204 Happy Cricket
214 Apache Secret	346 Lela Marie
315 Apache Spring	200 Majestic
313 Ellen Griffins Pride	260 Melanie J
ROBINSON (mini & semi)	161 MS Pretty
506 Hiroko \$10	301 Night Life
505 Jolie Roxane \$10	288 Nortex's Tangerine
502 Kiwi Dazzle \$10	Haven
510 Moonbeams \$10	356 Peach Float
513 Oh Melba \$10	78 Pretty Mama
511 Yasuyo Sport \$10	357 Raspberry Reunion
SWIFT	201 This Bud's Mine
247 Dumplin	289 Tiger Lily
137 French Lilac	PLUS DOZENS
363 Apache Canyon	MORE including
361 Apache Celebration	over 25 minis and
362 Apache Dream	semiminis and
304 Apache Eagle	selected gesneriads
316 Apache Face	on our descriptive
364 Apache Flame	list. See below.
311 Apache Glory	VIOLETS ARE
300 Apache Mystery	ALL WE DO —
214 Apache Secret	FULL TIME.
315 Apache Spring	Douglas & Barbara
313 Ellen Griffins Pride	Crispin, owners.
ROBINSON (mini & semi)	
506 Hiroko \$10	
505 Jolie Roxane \$10	
502 Kiwi Dazzle \$10	
510 Moonbeams \$10	
513 Oh Melba \$10	
511 Yasuyo Sport \$10	
SWIFT	
247 Dumplin	
137 French Lilac	
363 Apache Canyon	
361 Apache Celebration	
362 Apache Dream	
304 Apache Eagle	
316 Apache Face	
364 Apache Flame	
311 Apache Glory	
300 Apache Mystery	
214 Apache Secret	
315 Apache Spring	
313 Ellen Griffins Pride	
ROBINSON (mini & semi)	
506 Hiroko \$10	
505 Jolie Roxane \$10	
502 Kiwi Dazzle \$10	
510 Moonbeams \$10	
513 Oh Melba \$10	
511 Yasuyo Sport \$10	
SWIFT	
247 Dumplin	
137 French Lilac	
363 Apache Canyon	
361 Apache Celebration	
362 Apache Dream	
304 Apache Eagle	
316 Apache Face	
364 Apache Flame	
311 Apache Glory	
300 Apache Mystery	
214 Apache Secret	
315 Apache Spring	
313 Ellen Griffins Pride	
ROBINSON (mini & semi)	
506 Hiroko \$10	
505 Jolie Roxane \$10	
502 Kiwi Dazzle \$10	
510 Moonbeams \$10	
513 Oh Melba \$10	
511 Yasuyo Sport \$10	

Prices include packing and shipping by Priority Mail. Starter plants \$3.50 ea., Leaf cuttings: \$1.25 ea. Minimum order 4 plants or 8 leaves. For Special Delivery or UPS 2nd Day Air add \$3.50. Shipping May 1 thru Oct. 15 weather permitting. LIST A FEW SUBSTITUTES. THIS IS OUR ONLY POLICY. You will receive a post card just before we ship to you. Please use variety name and number when ordering. We also have a complete line of growing supplies, lighted plant stands, soilless mixes, fertilizers, pots, wicking trays, insecticides, leaf support rings, books, seeds and more, which we ship year round. Send \$1 for the 30 page supplies catalog/descriptive plant list. Clubs/large scale growers ask for our discount bulk supplies list with your catalog/list. MasterCard or VISA accepted.



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3-SHELF, 4-FOOT PLANT STAND (PICTURED) FROM \$ 142.00 (LESS FIXTURES & WHEELS)
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BA-3 FLORA CART, 3-Shelf (less fixtures & wheels) - \$223.00

40 Watt WS (WIDE SPECTRUM) Lamps ... 6 - \$24.96; 12 - \$43.68; 24 - \$81.12

We offer 8 NEW PLANTLITES with wide spacing between the lamps. All plantlites are 2" deep. 2 lamp Plantlites are 14" wide with lamps 10-1/2" apart. 3 and 4 lamp Plantlites are 20" wide with lamps 8" apart and 5-1/2" apart respectively. Also available with Deluxe or Electronic Ballasts for savings of 22% to 40% in Electricity, since fixtures can be located closer to the plants.

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SPECIAL #1 - SEMIMINIS - Dean's Bantam, Twin Flirt, Handmade, Rob's Blue Moon, Lillith, Rob's Pink Satin, Little Snow Caps, Moon Kissed, Playtime, Sugar Bear Pink, Rob's Silver Spook, Rob's Sundae Scoop

SPECIAL #2 - MINIS & TRAILERS* - Everdina, Prides Pink Trail*, Annina, Patt's Cameo*, Petite Blanche, Ramblin Prince*, Little Cameo, Rob's Pal Paul, Rob's Whimsical, Ramblin' Starlight*, Rob's Sailor Bill*, Milky Way*

SPECIAL #3 - MICRO-MINIS - Bryte Knight, Spunky Trail*, Blue Imp*, Teeny Bopper*, Brazos Belle*, Lil Thornbird, Dawn Michelle, My Doll, U-Haul Trail*, Jeepers Creepers*, Sea Bells, Wunnerful

Above specials - \$31.95 ppd. Any TWO specials for \$59.95 ppd. All THREE for \$79.95 ppd. (See shipping note below.)

Our fresh cut leaves & cuttings specials are:

18 leaves, all 1990 varieties: \$18.00 ppd 12 leaves, all Wranglers: \$12.00 ppd.

18 leaves, new/previous releases: \$12.00 ppd 10 Episcia stolons: \$12.95 ppd.

50 leaves, new/previous releases: \$25.50 ppd 10 Gesneriad Cuttings: \$12.95 ppd.

You may specify your preference on above fresh cut leaves - standards, minis, assortment. If no preference is stated, assortment will be sent.

Will be shipped Priority Mail. If you prefer UPS 2nd Day Air (highly recommended), please add an additional \$2.00 per special. Texans - please add 7-1/2% sales tax. Catalog - \$1.00 (coins or stamps)

PLASTIC FLOWER POTS

Inch Size	Color	Type	Number of Pots				
			10	20	50	100	500
2-1/4	Wh or Gr	RS or SQ	1.00	1.75	4.00	6.75	27.00
2-1/4	Black	Square	1.00	1.75	4.00	6.75	27.00
2-1/2	Wh or Gr	RS or SQ	1.20	2.00	4.30	7.40	30.00
2-1/2	Black	Square	1.20	2.00	4.30	7.40	30.00

Quantities of White and Green 2-1/4" and 2-1/2" SQUARES may be limited. Please indicate on your order if black is acceptable.

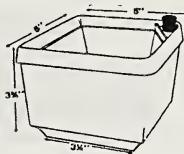
3	Wh/Gr	RS/RT/SQ	1.50	2.70	6.00	11.00	50.00
3-1/2	Wh/Gr	RT or SQ	1.75	3.10	7.30	13.00	58.00
4	Wh/Gr	RS/RT/SQ	2.10	3.70	8.30	15.50	70.00
4-1/2	Wh/Gr	RS/RT/SQ	2.35	4.20	9.25	17.00	79.00
5	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	2.75	5.10	11.75	20.75	93.00
6	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	3.35	5.90	14.00	26.00	
6-1/2	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	3.90	6.90	15.75	29.00	
7	Wh/Gr	RS	6.30	11.95	28.00		
8	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	6.90	13.10	31.00		

NOTE: The RT of the 3", 3-1/2", & 4" has a good round edge. Due to cost of shipping large quantities of 6", 6-1/2", 7", & 8" please write for special quotes for ordering amounts not listed.

MOIST-RITE PLANTERS

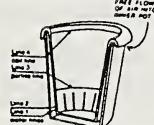
The attractively designed, double wall planters provide self-watering. Colors are: white, light green, and black.

Single Planter	\$ 4.00
Six Planters	20.00
Twelve Planters	35.00
Twenty-four Planters	58.00



OYAMA PLANTERS

Available in white & green the pots are:
4 inches across the top \$1.49
5-1/2 inches across the top 2.99



PLASTIC PAN POTS

Very shallow — depth is about 1/2 the width

Inch Size	Color	10	20	50	100	250
5	Wh or Gr	3.00	5.75	13.50	24.00	55.00
6	Wh or Gr	3.90	7.50	17.00	32.00	75.00
6-1/2	Wh or Gr	4.15	8.00	18.50	35.00	86.00
8	Wh or Gr	6.25	11.50	27.00	52.00	126.00
10	Wh or Gr	9.75	18.25	43.50	83.00	203.00

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AFRICAN VIOLETS - from the Nadeau Seed Company
Packet: 100 seeds & directions \$4.75
Kit: 100 seeds, directions, container, pellet medium	..... 5.25
Your choice: #1 - Rainbow Wonders (standard);	.....
#2 - Little Gems (minis); #3 - Autumn Fancies (variegated);	.....
#4 - Trailintrue (trailers).	.....

SNAP-ON SAUCERS to fit PANS

Pan	Color	10	20	50	100	Clear Saucers	
Size						Size	
5"	W/G	1.30	2.40	5.50	9.50	6"	\$ 2.75
6"	W/G	1.65	3.10	7.50	12.50	7"	4.30
6.5"	W/G	2.15	4.00	9.50	18.00	8"	5.10
8"	W/G	2.45	5.25	13.00	22.00	9"	6.40
10"	W/G	4.75	9.25	22.50	42.00	10"	7.30
						11"	10.25
						12"	11.75

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48 States (United Parcel Service) \$3.50
If C.O.D., UPS charges additional 2.75
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All other areas charged actual cost.	

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With
Soil Water
Reservoir
Soil Water

Vol.	Hgt.	20	50	100	500
8 oz	1-3/4"	7.00	16.00	26.50	115.00
16 oz	3"	7.00	16.00	26.50	115.00
32 oz	3"	11.00	24.00	45.00	165.00

We do not supply wicks

1990

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Unique hand-painted porcelain pin, pendant, earring, and plate with African Violets.

One-of-a-Kind.

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are the perfect companion plants for your African Violet collection requiring the same care.

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YOU WILL BE TOO WITH THESE
SPECTACULAR SHOW-QUALITY
VARIETIES!

- BLUES SINGER (Ruby Cox) - Large double pansies in a rich medium blue-purple, tall and proud above wonderfully symmetrical foliage with excellent variegation. You'll sing its praises!
- CAJUN HERITAGE (Domiano) - Ethereal bouquets in two tones of light pink with darker upper petal tips, the double pansies are lovely over gorgeous, beautifully shaped foliage heavily variegated in bronze, pink, and ivory. Grows large for show.
- CINNAMON GIRL (Sorano) - The large single to semidouble stars of rusty red are etched with white edges and will cover the medium green variegated leaves. An unusual bloom color, a blue-ribbon winner.
- DEAR DAVID (Champion) - The tan Champion-variegated, flat growing leaves are a perfect foil for these outstanding double lavender flowers with some deeper shadings. Another blue-ribbon variety from a master hybridizer.
- HIDDEN BEAUTY (L. Munk) - You'll never hide this variety, but will show it off to all! Heavily fringed and ruffled blooms are large, fully double, in glowing strawberry pink-to-lavender. The tailored foliage with distinct veining is excellent for show. Outstanding!
- HOT TOMATO (Fredette) - Looking for a compact standard? You couldn't find a variety more perfect than this with the hot rose full double blooms in profusion over nicely variegated tailored foliage.
- JEAN-PIERRE CROTEAU (Croteau) - Large and magnificent, this show variety is already a proven winner. Dark green, serrated foliage sets off to perfection the quantities of large semidouble deep purple blooms splashed with coral fantasy spots. Gorgeous!
- LOVE IN BLOOM (Sorano) - Bright pink semidoubles are banded in light pink that fades to white at the ruffled edges that are often trimmed in green, the striking blossoms dance gaily above lightly waved foliage crisply trimmed in white.
- MILKY WAY TRAIL (Stahl) - Featured on the cover of the Nov. - Dec. '89 AV magazine, this semimini trailer seems to be constantly covered with dainty, long-lasting white single blossoms. Well shaped, full and naturally branched, this will win-Win-WIN for you!
- MOON BRIGHT (Pittman) - A semidouble semiminiature with a cloud of fascinatingly beautiful white blooms edged with lavender-purple is exciting with perfectly shaped, plain tailored foliage.
- QUILTING BEE (Kent) - Big clusters of large, showy, long-lasting full-double stars with frilled edges in lovely lilac that shades to silvery lavender at the petal edges. These gorgeous blooms stand on strong stems over shiny, medium green foliage. Sensational!
- RUTH'S HALO (Boone) - The outstanding, large, lavender-purple two tone double blooms in frilled profusion will capture your heart. A lovely show variety with marvelous pointed green and cream variegated leaves.
- WRANGLER'S SAVAGE BEAUTY (Smith) - Pink edging on the dark green, lightly waved foliage accents the exceptional beauty of these single, long lasting two tone pansies in light lavender with darker upper petals. The tightly frilled blossom edges are etched in silver tones.

◦ Order from this ad: plants \$3.00 each, minimum - 4 plants ◦

Basic packing & shipping: \$4.00

ADD \$4.50 for UPS 2nd day air (recommended) PLUS 25¢ per plant over 4.

Shipping of starter plants & leaves will begin about May 1st.

MANY OTHER OUTSTANDING VARIETIES, NEW AND OLD, BY:

- * BLANSIT * BRYANT * BURNS * GRANGER * MAAS * MUNK'S "APACHES"
- * NESS * ROB'S MINI-O-LETS * SMITH'S "WRANGLER'S" * WILLIAMS *
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(Includes unique chapter on "Miniatizing The Miniatures")

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10% discount for 10 or more (save \$1.20 ea.) usa/can p&h 75¢ each (save 75¢ ea.) total \$1.95! Overseas \$1.20 ea. surface.

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- *Ceramic Self-watering planters ...
- *Oyama planters ...
- *Bowman Violet food ...
- *Plus much more ...



Rob's Mini-o-lets

Miniature African Violets and Gesneriads

NEW FOR 1990:

- Rob's Blue Moon: 2" 'Wonderland'-blue dbl. stars over medium dark foliage; prolific semiminiature
- Rob's Pal Paul: extremely prolific single white pansy on tiny, glossy, TL var. foliage; miniature
- Rob's Pink Satin: halo of large dbl. satin-pink blooms on gorgeous cream and green foliage; semiminiature
- Rob's Pinky Winky: nearly fluorescent dbl. rose-pink w/white edges; dark var. foliage; fantastic semimini
- Rob's Sailor Bill: dbl. pink; semimini trailing foliage
- Rob's Silver Spook: loads of dbl. white w/lavender blooms on perfect var. foliage; small semiminiature
- ROB'S SUNDAE SCOOP: dbl. fringed pink and purple fantasy, on ruffled TL var. foliage; semiminiature
- ROB'S VANILLA PINK: dbl. deep creamy-pink held above great cream and tan foliage; miniature
- ROB'S WHIMSICAL: dbl. white blooms w/blue eye completely cover medium green foliage; small semiminiature

Plus ... ROB'S MAGNETIC FIELD, best new introduction at 1989 AVSA convention, as well as other proven show-plants. New varieties from Pittman, Wasmund, Lyon and other hybridizers

STREPTOCARPUS by Jonathan Ford:

- BLACK PANTHER: nearly black blooms, two yellow dots on lower lobes; the best of its color and kind
- CHRISTMAS MORNING: large, very deep red w/yellow throat
- DOUBLE RASPBERRY PARFAIT: fully double deep pink; this is a must have plant
- HAPPY GIRL: med. pink w/purple veined throat; compact
- ICE CARNIVAL: large dbl. white w/distinct purple veining in throat; extremely heavy and constant bloomer
- IMPROVED LAVENDER LACE: dbl. medium lavender w/purple streaking; beautiful coloring
- STRAWBERRY JAM: large dbl. strawberry red blooms
- SUNRISE: light pink w/maroon veining on yellow throat; this is a real show-stopper, just terrific
- THUNDER CLOUD: double medium blue, w/light netting of darker blue; dependable, always looks nice

Plus ... more of the latest, like AMETHYST, BURGANDY, CAN CAN, MOON SHADOWS and dozens of others. These varieties bloom year 'round and are very tolerant of adverse growing conditions.

PRICES: Plants - \$3 each Leaves - \$1 each

10 plants, my choice - \$25 plus postage

20 leaves, my choice - \$15 plus postage

Please add \$4 to each order for postage & packing
FOR COMPLETE LIST, SEND SASE

Shipping begins May 1. Visitors welcome by appointment.

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Newest Varieties - Leading Hybridizers
Ship May 1 to November 1 - Weather permitting
Prior Notification of Shipping Date
Leaves - Labeled - My Choice - PPD - No List
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Self-watering CERAMIC DOUBLE POTS,
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AFRICAN VIOLETS
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State Inspected

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10 1990 leaves	\$10.00
20 leaves	13.50
50 leaves	22.50

6 1990 starters	16.50
6 starters	14.85
12 starters	23.00
18 starters	34.00
24 starters	44.00

ABOVE OFFERS ARE MY CHOICE. ALL LABELED AND DIFFERENT.

13 qts. Green Thumb African violet soil \$4.50

1 oz. Peters Root 'N Bloom - 5-50-1775

Good to use when setting leaves

Order from this ad or send 50¢ for complete list. Supplies shipped all year. Shipping Costs \$3.50 via priority mail. UPS Second Day Air add \$3.50 per order - recommended for starters. CO res. add 3% tax.

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NOW IS THE TIME TO ORDER YOUR JEANNETTE'S JESNERIADS AFRICAN VIOLETS AND OTHER GESNERIADS

AVAILABLE ONLY FROM US THIS SPRING: At \$3.00 ea.: All Spring 1990 Varieties advertised in the January issue of this magazine, plus an extensive selection of the OTHER gesneriads ...

And at \$2.25 ea.: Acadian Odyssey, All That Jazz, Aluminum Foil, Anticipation, Aubergine, Bayou Secret, Belizaire, Bienvenu, Bisque Risque', Blanche Holt, Cajun Heritage, Cajun Popcorn, Call Me Friend, Cross Patch, Designer Genes, Devil-May-Care, Evangeline, Fernando Otra Ves, Gentle Persuasion, Grandmother's Halo, It's Only Natural, Jaded, Juicy, Kiss and Tell, Kiss of Fire, Le Bon Papa, Lovelight, Makin' Romance, Minuette, Moonlight Lady, Passion's Reward, Plenty of Pepper, Reindeer Games, Shameless Flirt, Sleeper, Starcrossed, Stellar Clouds, Swamp Turtle, Sweet Temptation, That's Italian, Venus Butterfly, Voodoo Night, You Old Smoothie, Young Man's Fancy, Zest for Love and a limited number of other varieties.

Unfortunately, we will be unable to sell at the AVSA Convention this year, and there will be no price reductions this fall.

To order from this ad, send price of plants plus 75¢ per plant for priority mail shipping, or \$1.50 per plant for U.P.S. Second Day Air. Minimum order, 5 plants. For a complete descriptive list please send \$1.00. Shipping April 1 to November 1. Get your order in early for the best selection.

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15 MINIATURES & SEMIMINIATURES - 4 TRAILERS

NOW Specializing in only Miniatures, Semiminiatures and Trailers

All are heavy bloomers with regular and variegated foliage. Send stamp for descriptive list of these and many previous releases. Ready for shipping. USA only



PATCHES AND POTS

583 El Cajon Blvd., Dept. AV

El Cajon, CA 92020

(619) 442-7037

OYAMA "Self Contained" PLANTERS

Number of Planters

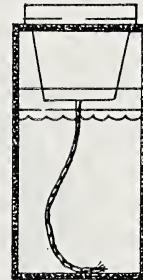
Size	1	6	12	18
4"	\$2.25	\$12.00	\$21.00	\$27.00
5"	\$2.50	\$13.50	\$24.00	\$31.50
5-1/2"	\$3.00	\$16.50	\$30.00	\$40.50

Colors: White, Forest Green, Brown. Colors may be mixed. Each planter comes with the correct amount of perlite.

CALIFORNIA RESERVOIRS AND MINI POTS

Size	Description	10	25
1-1/4 4TO	Rd/Saucer	\$3.25	\$6.75
1-1/4 4TO	Rd/No Saucer	\$3.05	\$6.25
2" TO 5	Rd/No Saucer	\$1.10	\$2.50
2-1/4" TO6	Rd/No Saucer	\$1.10	\$2.50
2-1/8" 5.5A	Rd/No Saucer	\$1.10	\$2.50

Color: All Terra-cotta



RESERVOIRS - For 4TO - 1-1/4" Opening

Amount

1	\$ 1.25
10	\$10.00
25	\$22.50

These reservoirs include wick

For T05 - 1 5/8" Opening

For T06 - 1 7/8" Opening

For 5.5A - 1 7/8" Opening

Amount Price

1	\$1.50
10	\$13.50
25	\$31.25

The 1 5/8" & 1 7/8" hole sizes may be combined for quantity discount.

These reservoirs (DO NOT) come with wicks.

Colors for all reservoirs are: Lavender, Watermelon, Crystal, Light and Dark Blue, Light and Dark Green, Gold, Yellow and Red. These are transparent colors so water level is visible. Please indicate size hole you wish.

MINIATURE SINNINGIAS White Sprite or Pusilla available during shipping season for \$2.50 ea. in egg terrarium. May be ordered with supplies.

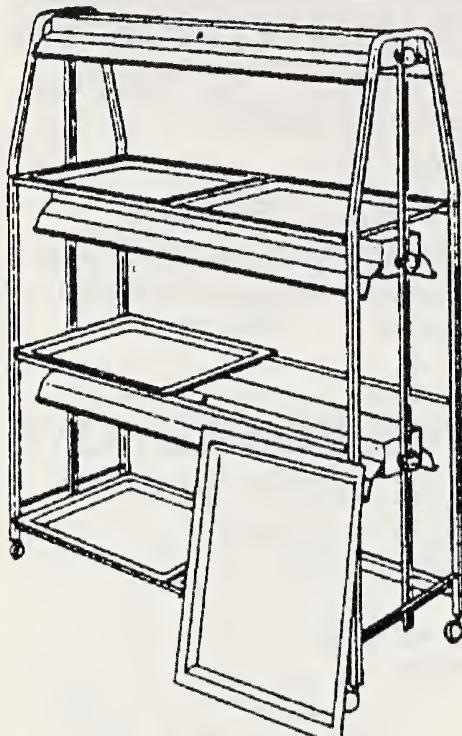
SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS:

48 States - \$3.25

Hawaii, Alaska and all other areas actual cost. UPS charge for COD - \$2.75

California residents add sales tax. MasterCard, VISA and American Express accepted. For Credit Card orders send all information on card. Street, zip code, and phone number a must for all orders.

Phone orders gladly accepted. Phone (619) 442-7037 from 6 AM until 6 PM Pacific Time Zone. Canadian orders welcome. Wholesale price list available for businesses. Write for information.



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**814-796-4159
Waterford, PA 16441**

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Phone (703) 943-9772**

Selections from leading hybridizers
Standards - Miniatures - Trailers - Episcias - Orchids
By appointment only, no shipping

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A beautiful new way to grow and display an African violet. The **Starlight African Violet Lamp** feeds and waters the violet with a mat watering system in a ceramic reservoir base. Simply set the plant, in its plastic pot, on the mat in the lamp. Light is provided by a circular fluorescent tube.

\$49 (without shade) plus handling and shipping.
Please send a SASE for details.



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FOR POTTING AFRICAN VIOLETS

"Makes the job faster, easier, cleaner, and with less damage to the plants. \$2.85 each (plus \$1.00 for handling and postage with each order). Club and quantity discounts available, (send SASE)."

**VIOLETS FROM THE STARRS
2602 Graupera St. Pensacola, FL
32507 904-456-2662**

REPOT.



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RESULTS.



Potting Soil • Violet Food • Plant Food • Watermaid

OPTIMARA® GROWS!

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**1990 brings in a galaxy of color for your personal preference
and enjoyment in growing our favorite plant ...
*The African Violet!***

SELECT FROM THESE COLORFUL CULTIVARS AT \$2.95 EACH ...

CORAL CLOUD, CORAL GLOW, CORAL KISS, CORAL STAR, CRYSTAL PLUM, FANTASY FORTY, FANTASY FROLIC,
FANTASY JEWEL, FANTASY SUNSET, FICKLE FLIRT, FIREWALKER and MAJESTIC.

KERMIT ... an unusual greenish type blossom, light green quilted serrated foliage ... \$3.95 each.

OPTIMARAS AT \$2.95 each ...

ALABAMA, ARKANSAS, BARBADOS, BETTY, COLUMBUS, DECENNIE, GEORGIA, GISELA, HARLEQUIN, INDIANA,
IRENE, LOUISIANA, MAUI, MOLOKAI, NORTH CAROLINA, OHIO, SUSI, VANESSA. (Please state second choice)

OUR FINEST SELECTION, NOW \$1.95 each ...

A LA LA, AMIGO, ANGEL LACE, ANNE'S FAVORITE, ANNE'S FAVORITE SPORT, AZURE BLUE, BELLISSIMA, BILLY
PENN, BLUE HERON, BRANDYWINE, CAMELOT PINK, CORAL MOON, CORALETTE, DARK SENSATION, DAZZLER,
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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 43

Number 3

May · June 1990



Strictly Business — Your Business

INFORMATION FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY TO ENSURE GOOD SERVICE. IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM, SEND EACH ITEM TO THE CORRECT PERSON. ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

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AVSA Membership: Send check payable to AVSA for new or renewable membership to AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Life - \$175; Commercial USA - \$25, Commercial International - \$27; Individual - \$13.50, USA only. All other countries \$15.50. Remit in U.S. Dollars with draft or check on a New York, USA Bank. See Membership Application on page 1.

AFFILIATES: Chapter - \$13.50; Council, State or Region - \$30. Please complete the form received with your renewal notice and return to AVSA office with affiliate dues check.

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION: Send ideas, offers to help, requests for assistance to Anne Tinari, 2325 Valley Rd., Box 190, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

AFFILIATES: For information on shows, awards, how to organize a chapter or membership questions, write Mr. Bill Foster, 3610 Gray Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.

AVSA OFFICE: Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704, 409-839-4725. Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

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CONVENTION

AWARDS: Nov. issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Esther Wells, 948 Fair Oaks Court, Liberty, MO 64068 by Aug. 15.

FUTURE CONVENTION DATES: Santa Clara, CA, April 23-28, 1991; Columbus, OH, April 22-26, 1992.

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EDITOR: Jane Birge, P. O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704, Office, 409-835-6008.

ARTICLES by Members & Columnists: Send to Editor.

COMING EVENT NOTICES: Send to Editor.

DEADLINES - Articles & Notices: Jan. issue - Oct. 1; Mar. issue - Dec. 1; May issue - Feb. 1; July issue - Apr. 1; Sept. issue - June 1; Nov. issue - Aug. 1.

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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Vol. 43 Number 3

May/June 1990

Every attempt is made to keep articles technically correct. Since the growing of fine African violets can be achieved in many ways, the methods and opinions expressed by writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of AVSA.

ON THE COVER — *Omaha* grown by Raymond Russell of Lawrence, Kansas, Best in Class, Kansas City Convention/Show - 1989.

(Cover photo by E. A. Johnson, Dallas, TX)

MAY 16 1990

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MARY BOLAND, President
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9 Cobblestone Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

MRS. FRED YOUNG
6109 Shadow Mountain Dr., Austin, TX 78731

EDITOR EMERITUS

MRS. GRACE FOOTE
211 Allen Place, Port Arthur, TX 77642

STAFF

JANE BIRGE, Editor
P.O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704
MRS. MEREDITH HALL, Adv. Mgr.
922 East 14th St., Houston, TX 77009
NANCY LAWRENCE, Office Manager
P.O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704
JANE REXILIUS, Publications Chairman
5634 Yarwell, Houston, TX 77096
COLUMNISTS
David Buttram, Emilie Savage, Florence Naylor,
Ruth Warren, Bill Foster, Jim Smith, Nancy Lawrence,
Georgene Albrecht, L. T. Ozio, Jr., Marlene Buck,
Bill Johnson, Nell-Sue Tyson, Lyndall Owens,
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Rita Hilton, 2295 W. Helen Cir., Bartow, FL 33830
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From the President's Desk



Dear AVSA Members,

Our annual convention/show has come and gone, and I know, all who attended caught the New England spirit and have come away with fond memories of the time they spent in Boston. A very special thank you to convention chairman Ruth Warren, co-chairmen, Joan Dikun, Elizabeth Locke, show chairman, Olga MacLean, co-chairmen, Peggy Eaton, Jan Dexter and their committees. Another big thanks to the commercial members who exhibited or sold, to the workshop speakers, and to all of those who exhibited in the amateur section, for making this convention special. To the AVSA convention committee, under the chairmanship of DoDe Whitaker, our thanks for all of the time and energy they have expended to make our conventions successful. Thank you, DoDe.

The July/August issue of the AVM will carry the convention news. This May/June issue has a deadline of February 1!

We appreciate the support you have given to the Booster Fund, Boyce Edens Research Fund and our Building Fund. Don't forget, these contributions are tax deductible.

As president I have appointed a new bylaws committee. The members of this committee are: J. R. Pittman, Ralph Breden, Charlie Bollar, Janet Riemer and Elinor Skelton. J. R. Pittman is chairman and his address is 12406 Alexandria Street, San Antonio, Texas 78233. If you have an amendment you would like to propose, please send it to the chairman. All proposed amendments will be reviewed by them, and the committee will either recommend approval or rejection with rationale to the membership.

A year has passed since you elected me as your president, and it has been a good year. I am impressed with your concern for improving our society. Your letters this past year have helped me understand what you feel is good for the society as a whole. I have taken your desires into consideration when making decisions. I hope that in the future you will continue to share with me your concerns so we on the Board may correct or improve our services to you. Let us hear from you.

Remember, as you make your vacation plans, check our commercial addresses to see if you can include them as a side trip. I know they will enjoy seeing you. Be sure and call ahead to make sure they will be in, so you won't be disappointed.

I hope each one of you will have a wonderful summer.

Happy growing and showing,

Newsline: AVSA Beaumont Office

Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager

BOSTON 1990

Congratulations to you Ruth Warren, our Boston Convention Chairman for a very well organized and successful convention; also, our sincere thanks to all of the club members in New England — for their contributions to a great convention and beautiful show.

Memories ...

With every convention there are events you want to remember and those you want to forget; as for the latter, the event happened upon our arrival at the hotel in downtown Boston.

There I was, on top of a van turning blue in the cold wind, trying to unload numerous large boxes of convention supplies and handing the boxes down to our (fortunately) tall Editor, Jane Birge, while a hotel doorman stood nearby, scowling, tapping his foot and looking at his watch as he muttered something about not being able to switch from a doorman to a bellhop to help us. Finally, a *real* bellhop arrived to assist; the doorman went happily on his way retaining his title and honor as Jane and I gratefully retired to a warm and lovely hotel room to thaw.

The event to remember was a trip to the "No Name Restaurant" at the Boston Harbor of "Boston Tea Party" fame. Four of us, Jane Rexilius, Publications Chairman, Meredith Hall, AVM Advertising Manager, Jane Birge, Editor and I were seated at a table overlooking the harbor, among a bustling crowd of seafood lovers. With mouth-watering anticipation, Jane R., Jane B. and I ordered boiled Maine lobster. Meredith played it safe with fried shrimp, commenting, "The only thing I don't like about seafood restaurants is when they serve you a whole fish, head and all." Shortly, our order arrived. When the waiter plunked down three whole lobsters, head, eyes, claws and all, the three of us looked very puzzled, while Meredith turned pale, and moved as far over to

the corner of our booth as possible. Noticing our confusion, the waiter patiently demonstrated the dismantling procedure for a whole lobster, while Meredith, crouched in the corner, hiding her face from a view of our plates, quietly pleaded, "Please don't let those things stare at me."

NOW — all "eyes" are turned toward our next convention in Santa Clara, California in April of 1991; we look forward to more happy times with our friends and members — and perhaps some Pacific Coast lobster. Care to join us, Meredith?

LIABILITY INSURANCE PAYMENTS:

To Club Treasurers:

Invoices have been sent to the Presidents of all clubs participating in the 1990/91 liability insurance program. If you have not received your invoice, please inform the AVSA office.

NEW HOT ITEMS FOR SALE:

AVSA Watch: We are very pleased to announce that the office now has a supply of watches with the AVSA logo on the face. The watches were designed and ordered by our President, Mary A. Boland. They were introduced at the Boston Convention, and were extremely popular. They come in two sizes: small - 3-1/4" in circumference and large - 1-1/8". We hope to have a picture of them in the July AVM. They also carry a one year limited warranty. Price - \$30 for either size.

AVSA Tote Bag: Another new item introduced at the Boston Convention, was a tote bag, which has the AVSA logo printed on it. The size is 12" x 12", approximately. They are great for carrying your MVLs, Judges handbook, etc., to meetings. Cost - \$7.00 postpaid. Look for photograph in the July AVM.

Remember, anytime is a great time to surprise someone with a gift membership and the African Violet Magazine. The form below is for that purpose.

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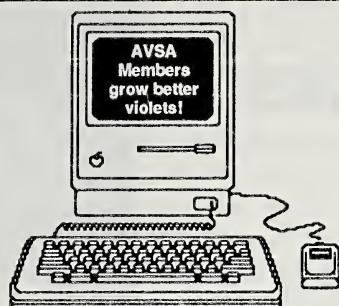
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Jane's Journal

Jane Birge, Editor

Well, Boston has come and gone and another exciting convention and exquisite show is in the history books of AVSA. Top honors should go to Ruth Warren and her excellent committees for an outstanding job. Actually, I would give top honors to her son, who upon my arrival in Boston, had two tickets to the Boston Celtics vs. Cleveland Cavaliers game on Wednesday night. Bert Warren was very secretive about the tickets and I was ecstatic. People who *live* in the area have to wait years to get Celtic ducats — my personal thanks to *all* of the Warrens!

A complete wrap-up of the Boston Convention will be in the July issue as a late deadline prevented it from going into this issue. The show winners should all be proud and the Best New Introductions will knock your socks off.

I guess other than the show, the commercial salesroom and the great banquets, the best thing about a convention is getting to meet all the different people. This year we had a nice representation from countries outside of the United States — a wonderful group of Canadians (yes, I really did get to meet the famous Larry Hodgson of "Houseplant Forum" fame), the Reynolds of Hertfordshire, England were charming, a wonderful group from Bermuda, Kazuo Horikoshi of Nerimaku, Japan and his beautiful pins and stickers with African violets (courtesy of Fuji film), Ingrid Lindskog of Umeå, Sweden and, of course, Joan Halford from South Africa.

One thing I've come to realize is that violets cause excitement, wherever they are. After the show was judged, Catherine Thompson of Gainesville, FL had to leave early and her blue ribbon plant, Mindi Brooke, came into my possession. I decided to give it to my mother, since

we were going to stop in southern Indiana on our way back to Texas. Carrying a large, beautiful show plant, in the winter, in the east and midwest was not an easy job. At one point, in Amsterdam, NY, we were forced to stop at a restaurant because of a snow storm. I was worried about leaving the plant in the van, so we asked at the restaurant if we could bring it inside. Each and every customer and employee in that place had to go look at the plant and discuss African violets. We noticed on the map that Dolgeville, NY was close by, so we told all these "would be" violet lovers about how they had one of the premier violet growers right in their own back yard — Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses. The owner of the restaurant said she was going to go there that afternoon — and I had a true feeling that she would. By the way, thank you Catherine Thompson — my mother thought the plant was wonderful.

More about the convention in the next issue.

Recently, the AVSA office received a letter from Rebecca Hoff, 15 New Prince Lane, Rochester, NY 14626, a "displaced" Texan, wanting to know where she could find Kolb's 'Dirty Face.' If anyone could help her, please write and let her know.

The AVSA Board of Directors has approved the three supplements for 1990; which have been very popular. There will be 16-page supplements in the September/October issue (Judges, Affiliates & Commercials), the November/December issue (MVL supplement), and the January/February issue (convention registration and information).

It was a great show, a great time and now we all can look forward to Santa Clara, California in 1991.

SHOWS AND JUDGES

Emilie Savage
39 Mead Drive
Chillicothe, OH 45601



This column is being written before the AVSA convention/show in Boston, as our deadline for publication precedes the convention. Therefore, we will be unable to comment on the show or questions that were presented at the Judges Breakfast, along with the answers from our committee.

Throughout the year, letters are received from AVSA members and judges concerning interpretations in the areas of shows and/or judging. These are always answered. However, from time to time these questions (and the answers to them) have been presented in this column as we feel that the same problems which are of concern to the person who has written, might be of help to others. The following concerns may be of interest to you:

1. We would like a clarification of the rule on the bottom of page 47 in the Judges Handbook regarding the AVSA Sweepstakes award for AVSA Council, State or Regional shows. Must the winner exhibit and win blue ribbons in both the horticulture and design divisions in order to receive this award? Or is the winner the exhibitor who has the highest total of blue ribbons in the show, be they in horticulture, design, or a combination of both?

In order to be eligible for this award, an exhibitor does not have to exhibit and win blue ribbons in both horticulture and design divisions. It simply means that blue ribbons won in the design division of the show may be counted. The winner is the exhibitor who has the highest total of blue ribbons in the show, either horticulture, design, or both.

2. In judging a Container Garden, if two African violet plants are in it, but one is not in bloom, are points deducted?

In judging Container Garden exhibits, if two African violets are used in a Container Garden, both

should be in bloom. On page 69 in the Judges' Handbook under Cultural Perfection, it states: "African violets should have a reasonable amount of bloom."

3. One judge rules that foliage or blossoms should not hang over the sides of the container of a dish garden — that all material must be within the rim of the container.

The judge who rules that foliage or blossoms should not hang over the sides (or extended over the sides) of a container of dish garden is in error. Our Handbook does not say this. Most of the foliage should be above the rim of the dish. However, plants in terrariums and bottle gardens shall be completely confined within the container.

4. Can the American flag be used in staging, even though it is not permissible in the Design Division?

These days we are almost hesitant to make or interpret any rule concerning the American flag. However, there is no rule in the Judges Handbook that prohibits the use of an American flag in staging a show.

5. Much confusion has arisen over what to do with a plant with "no name." If a plant is a "sport" or "mutation" of a named variety, you have two choices: 1. You may enter it in the New Cultivar class if it is something that is new and different and a plant worthy to be propagated (See New Cultivars, page 57 in the Handbook). You may think that it is a very exciting and interesting cultivar, so you proceed according to Page 58 by assigning a name to it. 2. If it is a nice plant, with lots of blossoms, good foliage, but not very different from current varieties on the market, you may elect to enter it in the color class indicated and label it "White Cameo Sport," for example. It will then be judged by the scale of points for a standard violet. It is not acceptable to put a name on a purchased violet or gift violet, where there

was no label to indicate name of variety, simply to enter this plant in a show. Sometimes, the classification committee will recognize the variety and be able to help an exhibitor. It is difficult not to be able to enter a nice plant, but a plant must have a name.

We also have some misunderstanding about where to classify a plant with a number, such as "Z99" or "Granger's Z99." Our handbook states, "New Cultivars never before exhibited at a convention/show must have been grown by the exhibitor, or the rights and ownership to them must have been released by the hybridizer to the exhibitor in writing. A new cultivar may be entered in the show by number rather than by name." A Granger plant (ex., Z99) cannot be entered in the New Cultivar class as it does not belong to the exhibitor. It should be entered in the proper class for color and type.

We want you to know that we are preparing corrected pages for the Judges Handbook, which will bring it up-to-date. These pages can be inserted in the Handbook in place of the ones which have corrected or changed rules on them. Notice of availability will be given in the African Violet Magazine when these are ready for distribution. Many have requested that new pages be printed. This was the reason that the Judges Handbook was printed in loose-leaf form, so that a major revision would not be necessary.

This column will end on a personal note. After many years of initiating and writing the Shows & Judges Column, this column will be my last. I have resigned as Shows and Judges Chairman effective at our annual meeting in Boston, March 24, 1990. I have enjoyed the many judges and teachers I have met personally, as well as those who have written or called. It has been my pleasure to serve as Shows & Judges Chairman. It is with a great deal of sadness that I leave. However, I have found that this position requires hours at my desk, planning for conventions, keeping records of all judges and teachers, processing judging schools and issuing judges' cards, responding to all inquiries. I feel that it is time to devote more of my time to my family, who have been very patient. I am grateful for the many friendships I have made through African violets and I shall treasure them. I shall not cease to grow African violets, exhibit them, judge them, or love them. I will

have time to accept offers to teach judging schools that I was forced to turn down because of my busy schedule. My new motto will be, "Have Handbook, will travel."

I want to thank all of you, and especially the members of the Shows and Judges Committee who have given their time to make the system work, who have made this job so rewarding. I hope to continue to see you at AVSA conventions. Please say "hello."

ATTENTION ... ALL AFFILIATES

*Anne Tinari, Chairman
Membership & Promotion Committee
2325 Valley Road, Box 190
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006*

We invite you to help increase our AVSA Membership with the following offer:

1. Obtain six or more NEW AVSA memberships, send names and addresses, plus fee to cover same to the AVSA office in Beaumont, TX. Remember to send under your affiliate name (you will receive \$1.00 rebate on these new memberships when rebates are distributed later in the year).

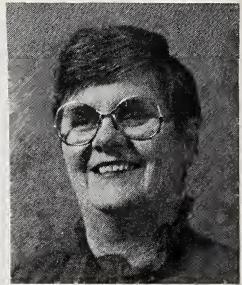
2. Send a copy of name and addresses to me stating the number of members in your affiliate. I shall send you as a bonus, a box of fresh cut African violet leaves, one for each member of your affiliate.

3. These fresh leaf cuttings will be sent UPS 2nd Day Air, please enclose \$5.00 to cover postal charges. Offer closes Oct. 15, 1990.

**Remember ...
Mom (or Dad)
on
Mother's (or Father's) Day
with an
AVSA membership!**

Affiliate 'appenings

*Lyndall Owens
P. O. Box 288
Beaumont, TX 77704*



SAN DIEGO DAYTIME AVS, CA — "Violets Las Vegas Style." Beverly Decker, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Something Special*, *Illini Peace*, *Grape Slush*, best trailer, *Jet Trail*, *Frances Haynes*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Snow Rose*, *Frances Young*, *Splendiferous*, *Rebecca Lawrence*; best in show, *Precious Pink*, best semi, *Precious Pink*, *Ruth Graham*; 2nd best in show, *Optimara Manitoba II*, best miniature, *Optimara Moonstone*, *Toni Burgess*; best design, "On Stage A Violet Extravaganza," *Edie North*; best gesneriad, *Episcia Cleopatra*, *Frances King*.

SPRING BRANCH AVC, TX — "African Violets Tour Texas." Elaine D. Click, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Pride of Enterprise*, *Kathe Denise*, *Granger's Wonderland*, best in show, *Texas Lullaby*, best gesneriad, *S. Rosebud*, *J. C. Munk*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Apache Feathers*, *Janice Ann*, *Granger's Wonderland*, 2nd best in show, *Pride of Enterprise*, best trailer, *Fallen Snow*, sweepstakes (47 blue ribbons), *Lenora Munk*; best design, *Ellen Moskal*; best miniature, *O. Little Moonstone*, *Meredith Hall*; best semi, *Wee Be*, *Betty Moss*.

POMONA VALLEY AVS, CA — "Crafty Violets." Cindy Myers, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Bogeyman*, *Precious Pink*, *Hug a lug*, best in show, *Fantasy Frolic*, 2nd best in show, *Bogeyman*, best trailer, *Cherokee Trail*, best miniature, *Everdina*, best semi, *Bogeyman*, sweepstakes, *Donna Silletto*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Tiger*, *Mary Craig*, *Mary D*, best gesneriad, *Alsobia dianthiflora*, *Iris Keating*; best design, "Quilting Bee," *Hilda Douglas*.

SOUTH COAST AVS, CA — "Violets at the County Fair." Ralph Bréden and Jacquie Eisenhut, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Majestic*, *Perhaps Love*, *Beloved*, 2nd best in show, *Perhaps Love*, best semi, *Dolled Up*, sweepstakes, *Marilee Beam*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Little Pro*, *Hart's Snow White*, *Denny Boo*, *Sarah De Angelis*; best in show, *Cherokee Trail*, best trailer, *Cherokee Trail*, *Everdina Inpijn*; best design, "Square Dance," *Jackie Johnson*; best miniature, *Mickey Mouse*, *Jacquie Eisenhut*; best gesneriad, *Columnea*, *Hans Inpijn*.

THE AV CLUB OF GREATER KANSAS CITY, KS — "Violets in the 90s — Now and Then." Molly E. Blacketer, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Snow Rose*, *Louise Croteau*, *Ms. Pretty*, best in show, *Snow Rose*, 2nd best in show, *Louise Croteau*, best design, "Now," sweepstakes, *Pat Richards*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Topmost*, *Snuggles*, *ACA's Merry Mary*, best gesneriad, *Chirita Sinensis Hisako*, *Jim Britton*; best trailer, *Santa Fe Trail*, *Carol Allinson*; best miniature, *Rob's Kaleidoscope*, best semi, *Pay Dirt*, *Johnnie Proctor*.

FIRST LAKELAND AVS, FL — "Ten Years of Reflec-

tions." Elizabeth (Liz) Farnsworth, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Grandma's Zack*, *Mindi Brooke*, *Dib's Ming Blue*, best in show, *Mindi Brooke*, *Liz Farnsworth*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Grandma's Zack*, *Mindi Brooke*, *Phantom Flash*, best miniature, *Little Amethyst*, *Vernon Farnsworth*; 2nd best in show, *Skagit Melody*, best trailer, *Wood Trail*, best semi, *Snuggles*, sweepstakes, *Chris Howell*; best design, "Violets On Stage," *Mary Lou Harden*; best blooming gesneriad, *Sin. Miriam G*, *Carol Schreck*; best non-blooming gesneriad, *E. Silver Skies*, *Barbara Robinson*.

TREASURE COAST AVS, FL — "Hearts and Violets." Gloria Rooks, Edna Higgs and Mary van der Lugt, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Phantom Flash*, *Pathfinder*, *Dusty Memory*, best in show, *Ramblin Silver*, 2nd best in show, *Texas Lullaby*, best design, "Funny Valentine," best trailer, *Ramblin Silver*, best semi, *Rob's Shadow Magic*, sweepstakes (31 blue ribbons), *Gloria Rooks*; best miniature, *Surprise Party*, *Virginia Thomas*.

UPPER PINELLAS AVS, FL — "Violets — For Any Occasion." Jeanne Schemel, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Lavender Tempest*, *Lela Marie*, *Optimara Trinidad*, best trailer, *S. Pendula Kizarae*, *Martha Tracy*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Picturesque*, *Sapphire Halo*, *Granger's Wonderland*, best design, "Retirement," *Jeanne Schemel*; best in show, *Ann*, 2nd best in show, *Phantom Flash*, best miniature, *Wichita Baby*, best semi, *Teen Dream*, best gesneriad, *Aeschynanthus Hildebrandii*, *Peggy Waller*; sweepstakes, *William Swartz*.

MID-POLK AVS, FL — "Hats Off To Violets." Betty Lombardi, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Ness's Ballyhoo Blue*, *Ness's Shirley's Delight*, *Pink Enchantment*, best in show, *Ness's Ballyhoo Blue*, 2nd best in show, *Swampland*, best design (tie), "Hats Off to Your Favorite Sport," best semi, *Bogeyman*, sweepstakes, *Rita Hilton*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Dolled Up*, *Autumn Lou*, *Missie Miss*, *Bob Sanger*; best design (tie), "Hats Off to the Red, White & Blue," *Hazel Miller*; best trailer, *Dazzle Trail*, *Janet Ducharme*; best miniature, *Timid Teen*, *Vena Grifith*.

California ... here we come!
for the 1991 AVSA Convention
in Santa Clara ...
see you there.

Ask Your Hybridizer!

Bill Johnson
1221 West River Road, #A2
Elyria, OH 44035



Here is a quote from a letter that I recently received: "Your column in the AVM is super! It gives the magazine a touch of scientific information which many advanced growers find fascinating. Please continue doing such an excellent job."

Need I tell you that I wasted no time in expressing my heartfelt thanks to the writer of that letter. All of us have egos and love praise. Laurence Peter said, "There are two kinds of egotists: Those who admit it and the rest of us." Cosmetics Queen, Mary Kay Ash found that there were "two things people wanted more than sex and money ... recognition and praise."

You can be sure that as long as this column is meeting a need and contributing to the growth and influence of AVSA, I will continue this exciting adventure. Thanks for your support!

Q. For a long time I have admired the wasp blooms and bustle foliage. I grow many of the "oldies" developed by Dates. I read in an article that the wasp and bustle tendency is a dominant trait. I find this is true; however, I cannot seem to develop any red, white, or double blooms on bustle foliage. I would also like to get some sticktight blossoms on bustle foliage. I also tried crossing onto variegated seed parents hoping for a "Tommie Lou" bustle, but have not had success. Can you offer any suggestions?

A. I do not know that I personally can be of any great assistance to you. The numbers of hybridizers who have experimented with the wasp and bustle traits is quite limited. The problem you have having getting red, white, and double blooms could easily be a matter of linkage. If this is the case, all you can do is to

keep on making crosses, hoping this coupling of genes will be broken. The breaking apart of coupled genes is called crossing-over. It is true that the phenomenon of linkage and crossing-over is the hope and despair of the hybridizer. If two superior genes are linked, the hybridizer hopes no breaks will occur. However, if a superior gene is linked with an inferior gene, the hybridizer hopes that breaks will occur and an exchange will be made with a superior gene. In so far as your difficulty in getting a "Tommie Lou" bustle, I cannot understand why there should be any problem getting that result. I say this because this type of variegation is a cytoplasmic inheritance and has nothing to do with the sex cells. Just be certain that you use the variegated plant as the seed parent.

Q. I have been reading about the new yellow violet in the AVM. Have you seen these violets? If so, what is your opinion of them? How soon will they be available for purchase?

A. Yes, I have seen the new yellow violets, and I think they are potentially the most exciting happening in the nearly 100 years of saintpaulia history. As reported in the March-April issue of the AVM, Nolan Blansit and my company have joined forces to develop the yellow violet. Nolan and I are now working in close cooperation to make this dream a reality. Nolan has made great progress this past year. Some of his newest yellows atop very dark foliage are outstanding! At this time, Nolan has a goal of being able to make his first releases at the 1992 AVSA Convention in Columbus, Ohio.

Q. My questions are in regard to the trailing habit in violets. How did trailers come about?

What future is there for them? Is this trait dominant or recessive? I am fascinated with the trailing habit, but I do not like trailers which do not trail without a lot of pinching and training. Is it possible to develop trailers that will naturally grow into a good hanging basket specimen.

A. I will answer your last question first. Yes, it is possible to develop violets that naturally trail without extensive training. Personally, I share your lack of enthusiasm for many of the current trailers which appear to be little more than multi-crown plants with little or no tendency to trail. This is true of many miniature trailers, and in Europe these varieties are called "bush" varieties instead of trailers. It is most unfortunate that the trailing habit is not easily inherited. It is recessive and there may well be several genes involved. This fact has certainly delayed the development of new and better trailing varieties. I think there is considerable potential for good trailing varieties in the marketplace. Trailers came about by crossing with the lanky growing species *Saintpaulia grotei*. Frank Tinari was one of the first to experiment with developing standard trailers. Then Lyndon Lyon used *Saintpaulia magungensis minima* to develop miniature trailers. These pioneer hybridizers have opened the door, and we can look forward one day to commonly seeing trailing violets proudly displaying their blooms cascading over the edge of hanging baskets.

Q. I have trouble understanding genetics. How much do I need to know about genetics before I can begin to hybridize? What do you suggest?

A. Most hybridizers would tell you that they knew very little about genetics when they began to hybridize. Usually one learns to hand-pollinate violets and to grow plants from the resulting seed. Then follows the interest in the study of genetics as one begins to try to understand the results of their efforts. While genetics is complex, it is no more difficult to understand than learning to read music or to programming a computer. Like these disciplines, one just needs to learn the language. Fortunately, one does not have to become a geneticist to become a hybridizer. You need only understand the

basic principles involved. If we were discussing electricity, I would say that you do not need to be an electrical engineer; that you need only become a good electrician. I tried very hard to explain the most necessary basic genetic principles in the simplest possible terms in my column in the January 1986 AVM. For all those who find genetics to be a stumbling block, I would suggest you order this back issue from the AVSA office.

New AVSA Life Members

New AVSA Life Members since the May 1989 issue of the African Violet Magazine are:

Margaret Triggs, Flagstaff, AZ; Susan T. Saddler, Fresno, CA; Roxanne Barton Conlin, Des Moines, IA; Charlene Meyer, Gurnee, IL; Mrs. Herman Teater, Peoria, IL.

Connie Roussel, Ponchatoula, LA; Carole Gilliard, Kirkwood, MO; Fran Russom, St. Louis, MO.

Ruth C. White, Yazoo City, MS; Mrs. Gary Thurman, Burlington, NJ; Hilda Vander Meer, Trenton, NJ.

Mrs. George (Cathy) Black, N. Canton, OH; Cynthia Gilbert, Tulsa, OK; Mary E. Hill, Locust Grove, OK.

Michael J. Mackiewicz, Philadelphia, PA; Sandra Thomas, Mt. Pocono, PA; Mrs. Newman Gibbs, San Marcos, TX.

Ruth Goeke, Brenham, TX; Grace O. Fields, Trevilians, VA; Rebecca Hathaway, Seattle, WA.

Julia Kathleen Plasse, Bremerton, WA; Mrs. Eleanor Beckman, Milwaukee, WI; John Milroy, Ixonia, WI.

R. F. Harriman, Montreal, Quebec; Mrs. Irene Henry, Dollard Des Ormeaux, Quebec; Louise Johnson, Hudson Heights, Quebec; Mrs. Murna A. Kosowan, Barrie, Ontario.

Mrs. Maggie Yuet-Wah, Hong Kong; and Ms. Toshiko Maeda, Kagoshima, Japan.

QUESTION BOX



James Smith
1126 Ferry Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14301



Question: I am an amateur violet grower who has been very successful in growing large, but beautiful violets. Currently I am using Volkmann Gardens' wick pots with reservoirs. The pots are 4-1/2" and many of the plants need to be repotted. Do you know where I can find a larger pot with wick and reservoir? What size should follow a 4-1/2" pot?

Answer: I contacted Volkmanns and they told me that they could help you. They supply 8, 16 and 32 oz. containers that will hold a 5-1/2" or 6" standard or round tub pot. There are many advertisers listed in the African Violet Magazine which supply wicks with reservoirs. Most all will not supply just wicks, though. You can make your own by obtaining some nylon cording from any hardware store. It can be cut to any length you need. Sometimes it is referred to as Mason's twine. It is sold by the spool, thus an endless supply.

You can make your own reservoir pots as well. I have used one pound butter tubs, and similar containers, with equal success. Start your friends collecting.

The rule for repotting is that the diameter of the pot should be 1/3 the diameter of the plant. Keep this rule in mind when you need to transplant up, or when you need to restart an older specimen, and pot down.

Question: I am in need of 2" or 2-1/4" sleeves for my sales plants. I have not been able to find any to fit that size pot and the ones I am using need to be taped or stapled around the pot. This is very time consuming. Can you help with an address?

Answer: The only advertiser in the AVM that I could find that sells sleeves is the Violet

House. Their address is: The Violet House, P.O. Box 1274, Gainesville, FL 32602, (904) 377-8465.

If any advertiser is willing to stock plant sleeves, please do so. There are many who need them, including myself!

Question: I have been growing violets for about 30 years, mostly for my own pleasure. I use Peters Fertilizers at each time I water. I would like to have more bloom. I grow them in natural light and a few under lights. What about this Superthrive? Does it produce more bloom? Should it be used along with other plant fertilizers, or by itself?

Answer: I would not categorize Superthrive as a fertilizer, but as a 'plant food supplement.' Superthrive is a concentration of vitamin B1. It has been my experience that when used in conjunction with a regular fertilizer program, it has helped to boost plant growth as well as to promote the development of fine feeder roots. I have also noticed a nice healthy shine to foliage. Since Superthrive does not contain the element phosphorus, it will do little to promote more bloom.

Question: I really prefer to wick water my violets to maintain the right moisture in the soil. I have had much trouble with algae developing in the reservoirs. As a new grower, I am unsure how to solve this problem. Any suggestions?

Answer: I have successfully used a product called Physan 20. It is a disinfectant, sanitizer, deodorizer, fungicide, and an algaecide. For algae control, use about 1/2 teaspoon on Physan per gallon of water. It does work and it will not harm the plants. You can mix it with your regular fertilizer water. I have used other products, such as Clorox, but with little success and

with some damage to plants as a result. Physan 20 can be obtained at most garden centers. If you have trouble locating this product, write to: Maril Products, Inc., 620 South B St., Suite A, Tustan, CA 92680.

Question: Here I am again, in my kitchen, cooking up some tasty little soil treat! Can you help me out of the kitchen? I still put some ingredients into my soil mix that need to be pasteurized. It takes so long for the batch to reach the required 180 degrees. I find myself constantly needing to watch the temperature so that it doesn't climb or fall, cracking the oven open for a while and closing it, and so on, until I have shot the whole afternoon! I have heard some are trying microwaving and wonder if you've heard of any successful recipes as far as amount of content and times, and also cooking powers? If one were to pressure cook these ingredients, wouldn't that be sterilizing? Wouldn't this eliminate the helpful bacteria as well?

Answer: I gave up pasteurizing soil, years ago. This was due to the fact that my mother caught me at, what she described as, "putting disgusting" things into her oven. This prompted the threat of sending me to Siberia if I didn't cease.

At any rate, it was a mess and time consuming, not to mention that not all of the 'livestock' was killed and I ended up treating chemically what wasn't murdered in the first place. If you purchase soil ingredients from a reliable commercial, there really isn't any need to put yourself through this ordeal. Most materials are clean and safe to use immediately. There are many advertisers listed in the African Violet Magazine who can supply all the materials necessary to grow good specimens.

I know of no recipes for microwaving soil. If any of you can help me out, please write. To use a pressure cooker would do more harm than good and would make the soil almost worthless.

As I mentioned in the January issue that I would report on the product called Funginex for a control of powdery mildew. I used it according to instructions and almost overnight it eliminated the mildew and with no residue. It didn't seem to harm blossoms, but, as with all

chemicals, caution must be used. Flowers of Sulphur or Sublime Sulphur, which can be obtained from any pharmacy, will work quite well as an alternative to harsh chemicals. This method will require you to brush the sulphur on the infected areas and later brush it off. The sulphur will kill the mildew. Some growers pour sulphur into shallow saucers and place them around the growing area, as well as on top of the light ballast. For some reason, even though there is no contact with the sulphur, the plants seem to be immune to the attack mildew. No one seems to know why this works. Perhaps this is a case for "Unsolved Mysteries."

Oops, I goofed!

My goof was my answer to a question in my column in the January issue concerning the 'supermarket' violet losing its name. Because the name was lost and the plant could not be identified, I suggested that any name could have been given for the sake of entry, and it would have been perfectly 'legal.' This is not correct.

The correct answer is that "all African violets and species, cultivars, and other gesneriads shall be correctly named." The only time a name can be given to a plant for the sake of entry is when the cultivar is either a sport or a seedling. To my readers, please accept my apology for this error.

Attention Affiliates: Send Your Nominations For The Hudson Award

Each year the Mabel and Glenn Hudson Memorial Award is given to individuals for outstanding leadership activities within an affiliated chapter. Recipients are presented with a citation and a very nice award at the closing banquet of the annual convention.

Affiliate groups are encouraged to suggest names of potential candidates for this award. To do so, secretaries of affiliates should send the name of the individual, along with a list of leadership activities and accomplishments, to Esther Edwards Wells, AVSA Awards Chairman, 948 Fair Oaks Court, Liberty, MO 64068, by November 1, 1990.

The Poet's Corner

In your little round throne of green,
where is your crown, my queen?

Fresh air and sun, water and light,
the world about you is just right.

Come and let me see your treasure,
little buds that bring me pleasure.

Then one day a bud I see,
as if to say, "Here I am, look at me!"

Shyness is a game you play,
but a smile you'll wear today.

A smile of color on your throne of green,
a crown of jewels at last, my queen.

*Julia Holloman
Winterville, NC*

In Memory

MILDRED MITCHELL

The Four Seasons African Violet Club, Groves, TX, has lost one of its members. Mildred Mitchell, 4845 Lincoln Ave., Groves, died January 21, 1990 in Thibodaux, LA, where she was visiting her family. She had joined AVSA and the African Violet Culture Club of Port Arthur, TX, in 1979 and served that club as secretary. She was a charter member of the Four Seasons African Violet Club of Groves, which was formed in June 1982. Mildred served as vice president, 1982-1984, and then as president of the club, 1984-1986. She served on many committees in the club and was an active grower of African violet, participating in all the club's events. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

*Sandra McDaniel, President
Four Seasons AVC*

AVSA Booster Fund

*Ruth Warren
P. O. Box 3664
Fall River, MA 02722*

Your response to the Booster Fund is very gratifying. Your caring and sharing for the AVSA is greatly appreciated.

First AVS of Spartanburg	\$15.00
Mary Boland	
in memory of Ray Dooley	25.00
AVS of Pensacola	10.00
Ventura County AVS	5.00
Paumanok AVS	10.00
Green Thumb AVC	10.00

Boyce Edens Research Fund

*Marlene Buck
P. O. Box 38
Oreland, PA 19075*

Donations received from November 20, 1989 through January 20, 1990.

Bahamas AVS, Nassau	25.00
First Goldsboro AVS, NC	25.00
San Diego Daytime AVS, CA	
in memory of Dorothy Grimsby	10.00
Bakersfield AVS, CA	
in memory of Gladys Rogers	10.00
First AVS of Denton, TX	
in memory of Mrs. Carrie Hoover	10.00
Mid South AVS, Memphis, TN	10.00
Covington AVS, Andalusia, AL	10.00
Mrs. Greg AVC, Saint Paul, MN	10.00

*From May To May
Continuous Research
Goes On*

*So Your Violets
Will Grow Better
All Year Long*

*Please Send A
Donation To Help
Our Projects Along.*

COMING EVENTS

MAY 4 & 5 NORTH CAROLINA — AVS of Charlotte's 8th annual show/sale, "African Violets - Come Rain or Come Shine," Eastland Mall, 5471 Central Ave., Charlotte. May 4, 12:30 - 9 p.m.; May 5, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Public welcome, free admission. Eva Harp & Betty Garland, show chairmen. For more information: 740-541-0657.

MAY 4 & 5 SOUTH CAROLINA — First AVS of Spartanburg show/sale, "Circus of Violets," Hillcrest Mall, 1900 block of East Main St., Spartanburg. May 4, noon - 9 p.m.; May 5, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Public invited. Shelby Compton, show chairman. William Goodwin, president.

MAY 4 & 5 NEW YORK — Hudson Highlands AVS of Cornwall-on-the-Hudson show/sale, "Days of Wine and Violets," Union Presbyterian Church, 44 Balmville Rd., Newburgh. May 4, 5 - 9 p.m.; May 5, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free admission, public invited. For more information: Mrs. Kel Seberle, show chairman, 914-623-8221 or Mrs. Georgina Lark, president, 914-534-2065.

MAY 4 & 5 OHIO — Cincinnati AVS show/sale, "Cincinnati Festival of Violets," New England Club, 8135 Beechmont Ave., Cincinnati. May 4, noon - 5 p.m.; May 5, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Open to the public, free admission. Marge Burson, show chairman, 513-474-1088.

MAY 5 CANADA — Vancouver AVC's 30th annual show/sale, Oakridge Auditorium, 41st Ave. and Cambie St., Vancouver, British Columbia. 12 noon - 4:30 p.m. Admission, \$1. For more information: Dorothea McCann, show chairman, 604-581-5631. Arleen Dewell, president.

MAY 5 CALIFORNIA — Granada Hills AVS show/sale, "Spring Fling," The Town Hall Room, Balboa-Mission Shopping Center, 16916 San Fernando Mission Blvd., Granada Hills. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. For more information: Mary Blancher, 818-363-6222.

MAY 5 & 6 WISCONSIN — Crosstown AVC exhibit/show, East Towne Mall, Madison. Mat 5, 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; May 6, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Bonnie Henell, president.

MAY 5 & 6 NEW YORK — Paumonok AVS show/sale, "Fun Is," Elwood Middle School, Elwood Rd., East Northport. Jane Weber, show chairman.

MAY 5 & 6 MICHIGAN — Michigan State AVS display/sale, Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 Dixboro Rd., Ann Arbor. Both days, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Educational session, 2 p.m., May 5. Public invited, free admission. For more information: Jeanette Benson, 313-437-3833 or Jenny Sweet, 313-526-4321.

MAY 5 & 6 UTAH — AVS of Utah's 38th annual show/sale, "The Gay Nineties," Garden Center Activity Building, 1602 E. 2100 South, Salt Lake City. May 5, 1 - 6 p.m.; May 6, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free admission, public invited. Karen Smith, president; Cliff Abe, show chairman; Barbara Fletcher, cochairman.

MAY 5 & 6 MISSOURI — Sho Me AVC show, "African Violets Singing in the Rain," Loose Park Garden Center, 5200 Pennsylvania, Kansas City. Both days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Kitty Julian & Coleen Cooley, cochairmen.

MAY 5 & 6 GEORGIA — Classic City AVS show/sale,

"Decades of Violets," Georgia Square Mall, Hwys. 78 & 29, Athens. May 5, 1 - 9 p.m.; May 6, 1 - 5 p.m. Open to the public. For more information: Marge Kotiar, show chairman, 404-354-6979.

MAY 5 & 6 CONNECTICUT — Silvermine AVS show/sale, "A Rainbow of Violets," The Nature Center, 10 Woodside Circle, Westport. May 5, 1:30 - 5 p.m.; May 6, 1 - 4 p.m. Free admission, open to the public. Frenchie Everitt & Lynn Wallach, cochairmen.

MAY 5 & 6 NEW YORK — Mark Twain AVS show/sale, Elmira Garden Club, corner of Fulton & Franklin streets, Elmira. May 5, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; May 6, 12:30 p.m. - 3 p.m. Slide show, May 6, 2 p.m. Free admission, public welcome.

MAY 5 & 6 CALIFORNIA — Heartland AVS show/sale, "Around the May Pole with Violets," Casa del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park, San Diego. May 5, 1 - 5 p.m.; May 6, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public welcome, free admission.

MAY 5 & 6 NEW YORK — AVS of Syracuse show/sale, Penn Can Shopping Mall, North Syracuse. May 5, 2 - 9 p.m.; May 6, noon - 5 p.m. NYS T'way Exit 36 to Rte. 81 north; Bear Rd. Exit (Circle Dr.) to Mall. Show under clock in mall. James Wildman, show chairman, 315-492-2562; Frank Barthel, vice chairman.

MAY 5 & 6 CANADA — First Halifax AVS show/sale, "Violets seen through the eyes of a child," Lord Nelson Hotel, South Park St., Halifax, N.S. Admission, \$2; Seniors, \$1. Show chairman, Ina Beaver, 2 Shamrock Dr., Dartmouth, N.S. B3A 2Y7, ph. 902-469-6968.

MAY 5 & 6 ALASKA — Last Frontier AVS' 2nd annual show/sale, Cottonwood Creek Mall, Wasilla. May 5, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; May 6, noon - 5 p.m. Ellen Izzi, chairman.

MAY 10 - 12 CANADA — The AVS of Canada's convention/show, "Violets Celebrate," Hotel Beausejour, Moncton, New Brunswick.

MAY 10 - 12 OHIO — Town & Country AVS of Painesville show, "Friends Through African Violets," First Federal Savings Bank, 8715 Mentor Ave., Mentor. Joanne Malnar, show chairman; Gertrude Morabito, cochairman.

MAY 11 & 12 TENNESSEE — Mid-South AVS pre-Mother's Day show/sale, "Victorian Violets," Memphis Mall, I-240 & Perkins. Both days, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. For more information: Mrs. Fred W. Reinhardt, 5547 Santa Monica Dr., Memphis 38116 (901-346-2580).

MAY 11 & 12 MARYLAND — Baltimore AVC show/sale, "Violets in Toyland," Towson Marketplace, Joppa Rd. & Putty Hill Ave., Towson. May 11, 1 - 9:30 p.m.; May 12, 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Dianne Good and Charles Cohen, cochairmen.

MAY 11 & 12 OHIO — Parmatown AVC's 30th annual show/sale, "Moon Mysteries and Violets," Parmatown Mall, corner of Ridge & Ridgewood, Parma. Public invited. Georgeann Gohr & Marion Tisdale, cochairmen. For more information: Edward Gohr, 216-949-8475.

MAY 11 & 12 WISCONSIN — Fox Valley AVC show/sale, "Violets Oriental Style," The Avenue, 103 West Col-

lege Ave., Appleton. May 11, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., May 12, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Open to the public. Sue DeBrue, chairman.

MAY 11 & 12 NEW JERSEY — AVC of Trenton show/sale, "Let's have A Ball!" Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church, E. State St., Ext., Merverville. May 11, 2 - 10 p.m. May 12, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. Gary Thurman, show chairman. Rhona Thurman, president.

MAY 11 & 12 NORTH CAROLINA — First Goldsboro AVS show/sale, "Violets on Parade," Berkeley Mall, Berkeley Blvd., Goldsboro, during regular mall hours. For information: Lorena Bunn, 919-747-8917.

MAY 11 & 12 CANADA — Stampede City AVS show/sale, "Treasure Chest of Violets," North Hill Shopping Centre, Calgary, Alberta. May 11, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.; May 12, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MAY 12 WASHINGTON — Longview AVC show/sale, "Gay Nineties," Commerce Hall, 1145 Commerce Ave., Longview. 1 - 5 p.m.

MAY 12 NEBRASKA — Omaha AVS exhibit/sale, Southroads Mall, 1001 Fort Crook Rd. N., Bellevue. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

MAY 12 TEXAS — AV Study Club of Houston sale, Westwood Mall (Hwy. 59 & Bissonnet). 10 a.m. - until sold out.

MAY 12 & 13 KANSAS — Bright Petals AVS show/sale, Holiday Inn Gold Room, 3017 W. 10th, Great Bend. May 12, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.; May 13, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission, everyone welcome.

MAY 12 & 13 VIRGINIA — Tidewater AVS' eighth annual show/sale, "Our Virginia Heritage," Norfolk Botanical Gardens, Norfolk. Take airport exit off I-64 and follow signs to gardens. May 12, 2:30 - 5 p.m.; May 13, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Entrance to gardens is \$2; show is free. For more information: Carol Van, show chairman, 300 Brittain Lane, Hampton 23669 or Sandi Flora, president, 804-587-2029.

MAY 12 & 13 NEW YORK — Heritage AVS of Long Island show/sale, "Pirates!!," Christ Lutheran Church, 300 Hillside Drive So., New Hyde Park. (South side of Hillside Ave.) May 12, 2 - 5 p.m.; May 13, 1 - 5 p.m. Free admission. Barbara Kustek, show chairman.

MAY 12 & 13 CALIFORNIA — Ventura County AVS show/sale, "The Violet Chronicles," CenterPoint Mall, Saviers Rd. at Channel Islands Blvd., Oxnard. May 12, noon - 6 p.m.; May 13, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. Marcia Shaver, chairman. For information: Charles Alvarez, president, 805-525-0612.

MAY 18 - 20 CALIFORNIA — AVS of South Bay show/sale, "Symphony of Violets," Westgate Mall, Saratoga Ave. & W. Campbell Ave., San Jose. During mall hours. Public invited, free admission. For more information: Irene Thomas, 415-369-3452.

MAY 19 & 20 CALIFORNIA — Tustana AVS show/sale, "Carousel of Violets," Westminster Mall, Robinson's Court, 405 Freeway & Goldenwest, Westminster. May 19, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; May 20, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. Edmund Cook, show chairman.

MAY 26 & 27 CALIFORNIA — AVS of San Francisco's 34th annual show/sale, "Violets in Motion," San Francisco County Fair Building, 9th Ave. & Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. May 26, 2 - 5 p.m.; May 27, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Gregory Sedgwick, show chairman; Frances McMahon, cochairman.

MAY 27 CANADA — Toronto AVS show, "Violets Centre Stage," Civic Garden Centre, Edwards Gardens, 777 Lawrence Ave. E. Don Mills, Ontario. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission, \$1. Jean Hamilton, show chairman, 416-491-9719.

JUNE 2 & 3 NEW JERSEY — AVC of Burlington County show, "The Impossible Dream Come True," Burlington Center, Rt. 541, Burlington. June 2, 1 - 9 p.m.; June 3, noon - 5 p.m. Dorothy Taylor, show chairman.

JUNE 2 & 3 CALIFORNIA — Orange County AVS show/sale, "Violets in the Gay Nineties — then and now," Brea Mall, 57 freeway & Imperial Hwy., Brea. June 2, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.; June 3, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. For more information: Edward Hoefer, show chairman, 714-526-4773.

JUNE 2 & 3 CALIFORNIA — Bellflower AVS show/sale, Lakewood Community Youth Center, 4658 Woodruff Ave., Lakewood. June 2, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.; June 3, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. Joan Chambers and Yvette Homan, show cochairmen.

JULY 11 - 14 CANADA — Gesneri-Québec presents "Gesneriads With a French Accent," the 1990 annual convention, show and sale of the American Gloxinian and Gesneriad Society will be held in Québec City at the Château Frontenac. Plant sales open July 12, 10 p.m. - midnight; flower show and plant sales, July 13, 3:30 - 6 p.m. & 10 p.m. - midnight; July 14, 9:15 a.m. - noon. Guest speakers: Christian Feuillet, "Gesneriads of Guiana," Denis Croteau, "Hybridizing Episcias," Denis Barabé, "Columneas of the Montréal Botanical Gardens," Bill Burtt, "Gesneriads of the Old World." For room reservations, contact the Château Frontenac (418) 692-3861. For more information contact Larry Hodgson (418) 681-4986. ☐



Dee Barnes is shown holding *Episcia Painted Warrior* which won Best gesneriad at a recent African Violet Council of Florida show.

AVSA Building Fund

Nell-Sue Tyson
2030 E. Amherst Avenue
Denver, CO 80210



As we near realization of our goal of an office home of our own, I wish to extend to you a chance to help us over the last threshold. Surely there are many of you who want to share in our

dream and have not done so yet. Won't you be disappointed not to have joined your many friends in making this dream possible?

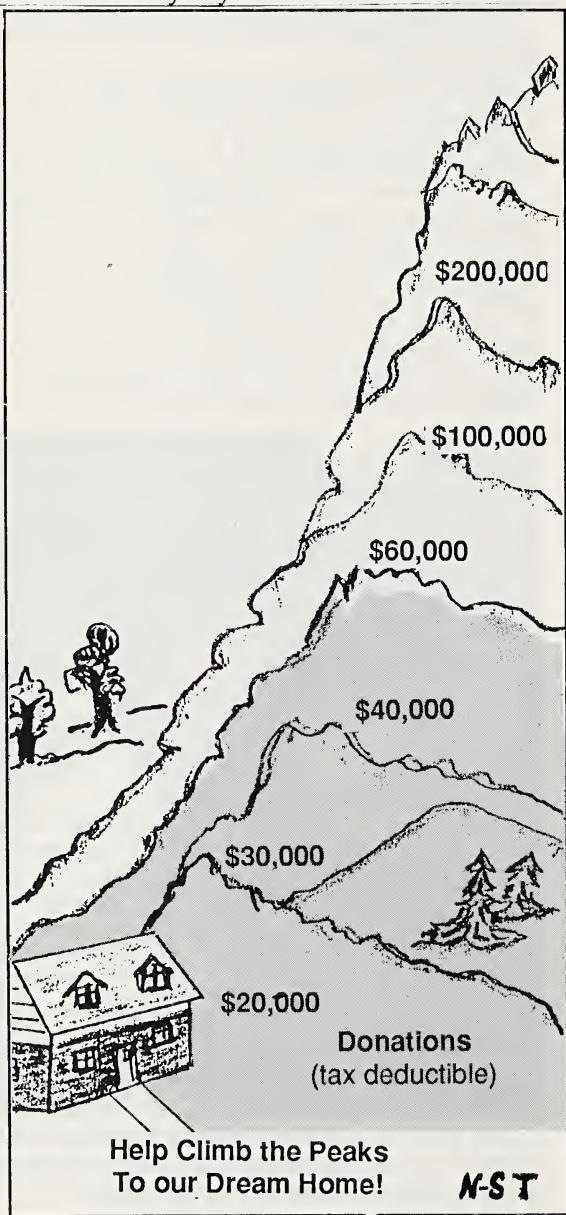
Oh, there will be many, many more needs as time goes on. Even if we buy a building now in existence, extensive remodeling will no doubt be necessary — probably inside and out, as well as numerous other costs to make it fit our needs.

Though we all know that it will be necessary to receive donations for years, yet, there is a thrill to participating in the initial acquisition. We can then call it OURS.

Although you will be reading this after the Boston Convention, I feel our new year of ideas, plans, hopes and dreams will be renewed, so new efforts will be started.

Donations received from Nov. 20 through Dec. 24, 1989.

December, 1989	
First Austin AVS, TX	
in Ray Lange's memory	
from "Friends in the First Austin African Violet Society"	\$28.00
Nutmeg State AVS, CT	
in lieu of judges expenses for:	
Mrs. Cecelia Winfield and Ms. Charlotte Lynn	10.00
Lafayette AVC, LA	25.00
Don L. Thornburg, CA	15.00
Bahamas AVS, Bahamas	25.00
Delilah Beethe, TX	
in memory of Ray Lange	10.00
First Goldsboro AVS, NC	
\$20 in memory of Ida Wooters;	
\$25 donation from the club	45.00
Bakersfield AVS, CA	25.00
Long Island AVS, NY	
in lieu of speaker's fee to Ellie Bogin	15.00
Anne and Frank Tinari, Tinari Greenhouses, PA	
in fond memory of Natalie Caprotti,	
our dear African violet friend	
and devoted AVSA member	10.00
Marilyn Goldstein, FL	300.00
Berniel Weight, MN	
in memory of her mother, Elda E. Weight	25.00
Tristate AV Council, NJ	
in memory of Raymond Dooley	25.00



Gerald and Marceline Koester, NY
 in loving memory of Raymond Dooley 20.00
 Total for the month - \$578.00

Central Connecticut AVS has notified us that their check for \$25.00, recorded in September, was not intended for the Building Fund. The check has been refunded, so we have deducted \$25.00 from our total contributions.

TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS - \$58,858.22

Contributions received from Dec. 24, 1989 through Jan. 25, 1990.

January 1990

Mrs. Richard (Jane) Hiltz, NY
 in memory of Ray Dooley \$10.00
 Mark A. Grigalunas, NY
 in memory of Raymond Dooley 25.00
 New York State AVS, Inc.
 in memory of Raymond Dooley, past president
 of NYSAVS and AVSA Director 25.00
 Fay and Irwin Wagman, NY
 in memory of Ray Dooley 10.00
 Don L. Thornburg, CA 15.00
 Rita and Ben Sencic, NJ
 in memory of Raymond Dooley 20.00
 Sweet Water AVS, NY
 in memory of Raymond Dooley 25.00
 Wynne Voorhees, LA
 in lieu of speaker's fee for program given to
 Chimneyville AVS of MS 75.00
 Mr. and Mrs. Morgan Simmons, IL
 honoring Jay and Barbara Corbett 10.00
 Mid-South AVS, TN 10.00
 Pikes Peak AVS, CO 5.00
 Mrs. Isabelle Gronert, NY
 in loving memory of Raymond Dooley 50.00
 William F. Arnholdt, NY
 in memory of Raymond Dooley 25.00
 Mrs. Edward (Lois) Buschke, NJ
 in loving memory of Raymond J. Dooley, Jr. 25.00
 Mary Alice Barta, TX
 in memory of Gladys Spencer, in lieu of
 speaker's fee from First Wichita Falls AVS 25.00
 Edward Bradford, NY
 in memory of Raymond J. Dooley, Jr. 100.00
 Louisiana Council of AV Judges 100.00
 First Nighter AVS of Dallas, TX
 in memory of club member, Madge Birdwell, \$15
 in memory of Ethel Turner, mother of
 Byron Turner, \$15 30.00
 Rockford Women's AVC, IL 50.00
 New York City AVS, Inc.
 in memory of Raymond J. Dooley, Jr., donated by:
 NYCAVS, Inc., \$50; Donna and Joseph Palagonia,
 \$20; \$5 each from: Bob Baker, Edward Blas,
 Leila Egenites, Rebecca Gmucs, Carrie Greene,
 Jack and Kathy Holler, Nancy K. Hough,
 Dorothea Kerr and Estelle Pascoe 115.00
 AV Culture Club, TX
 in memory of our beloved member,,
 Ann Carpenter 100.00

Sandra Moore, OH
 in memory of my grandmother, Mary McLaren ... 10.00
 Janet T. Riemer, NJ
 in memory of Ray Dooley 15.00
 AVS of Northern Illinois, Inc. 25.00
 Lakeshore AVS of Toronto, Canada
 in memory of Ray Dooley
 from his friends at LAVS 70.00

Total for the month - \$970.00

TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS - \$59,828.22



Jo Anne Martinez is shown holding *Precious Pink* which won Second best in Show at a recent African Violet Council of Florida show. Jo Anne also won 2nd best AVSA collection. Theme for the show was "Violets on the Go."

Read all about the
 1990 Boston Convention
 in the July issue.

A Chemical Analysis of the Flower Pigments in African Violets: Part I

Dr. Jeff Smith
1359 Dorchester
Norman, OK 73069

One of the attractive features of African violets is the myriad of colors and shades found in their flowers. As a scientist whose hobby is growing African violets, I became curious as to the chemical basis of flower color and whether the many different types could be classified into a smaller number of pigment classes. A part-time research project has been in progress over the past 1-1/2 years to investigate the chemical basis of flower color in African violets.

The method used to identify the flower pigments was a technique known as paper chromatography. The word chromatography literally means "color writing." This process separates mixtures of chemicals by their physical and chemical properties so they can be identified. An analogy would be having a group of people running a race up a hill. Those people who are light weight would tend to move the fastest up the hill, those who are heavier would move only a short distance. At the end of the race, the individual people would be at different positions on the race course, allowing them to be separated and identified.

The flower pigments were analyzed by the following method: One to three gram samples of flower petals were removed and placed in a methol alcohol solution containing 1% hydrochloric acid for 24 hours. The alcohol dissolves the pigments out of the petals and the acid keeps the pigments stable for analysis. The pigment extract was poured off the petals and stored in a sealed glass container in a refrigerator until analyzed. The pigment extract was deposited drop by drop on a sheet of Whatman #1 Chromotography paper. Each drop was allowed to dry and the next drop was deposited on the same area so that a concentrated spot of pigment was built up on the paper. The chromatography paper was then placed in a glass

tank so that the edge of the paper touched a solvent. The solvent used can vary depending on what the mixture of chemicals are. The solvent found to be the most useful in this study was a BAW solution (n-butanol, glacial acetic acid, water, 40:10:50 mixture, upper phase). As the solvent moved up the paper, it passed through the pigments and dissolved them. The pigments separate out as the solvent continued to climb to the end of the paper. After 15 hours, the paper was removed from the solvent and dried. The spots were examined under white and ultra violet light and the colors recorded. The percent distance the spot moved compared to the solvent was calculated (Rf or rate of flow value). Identification of the pigments was based on their colors and their Rf value as compared to published standards (Harborne, 1967) and the Rf values and colors of known anthocyanin pigments (purchased from a chemical supply company) that were included during each chromatography run.

The results indicated that all African violets examined to date can be categorized into a relatively small number of different pigment types. A representative sample of plants illustrating each pigment type is given in Table 1 (over 80 plants were examined in the total study). I have listed the category by its visible color in the petals and have given the pigment's chemical identification. The chemical names sound very confusing, but they are really very simple. The three main anthocyanins identified in African violets are Malvidin, Peonidin, and Pelargonidin. These names are taken from the name of the plant where this anthocyanin was first identified. Malvidin was first found in a member of the Mallow or Hibiscus Family, the Malvaceae. Peonidin is from peonies and Pelargonidin is from the genus name for Geranium,

Pelargonium. The “-oside” words indicate various sugars that are attached to the anthocyanin molecule and at what position (by number) they are located. To a chemist this naming system describes the molecule exactly so confusion can be avoided.

Based on the results, it is possible to divide the pigment colors in African violets into seven main categories:

1. Blues: Malvidin 3-Rutinoside-5-Glucoside.
2. Reds: Peonidin 3-Rutinoside-5-Glucoside.
3. Pinks: Pelargonidin 3-Rutinoside-5-Glucoside.
4. Corals: Pelargonidin 3-Rutinoside.
5. Coral Reds: Peonidin 3-Rutinoside.
6. Yellows: Flavonol.
7. Whites: No pigment present.

Categories 1, 2, 3 and 7 have been previously reported in the scientific literature (Khokhar et al., 1982). Categories 4 and 5 have not been previously reported as pigments occurring in African violets. The yellow flavonols of category 6 were first reported earlier this year (Smith 1990).

One interesting relationship that should be noted in the results is the relationship between the Pinks-Corals and the Reds-Coral Reds. The anthocyanin in each case is the same. The difference between the two classes of pigments is the sugars attached to the molecule. The coral colors lack a glucose sugar at the number 5 position. The loss of this sugar is enough to change the color of the pigment. The same sugar loss should be possible for the Blues as well, but no flower tested in this study was identified as a Coral Blue. I don't know what the visible color of a Coral Blue would be, but a similar pattern of pigments is known in Iris and the equivalent to Carol Blue is known as "dove blue" (Werckmeister et al. 1966). It is possible that a Coral Blue has not yet been bred in African violets or if it has, it is not distinguishable from a regular Blue. In theory, it might also be possible for a Coral Yellow to exist as well. With Yellows so new, it will take some time to test if a Coral Yellow can be developed and what its visible color might be.

The difference between a pale blue and a dark blue or purple is not a difference in the kind of pigment present, only its amount. Pale flowers

contain small amounts of the pigments while the dark colors contain much higher amounts. One instance where the quantity of a pigment can lead to a possible misidentification of which pigment is present is in the Pinks and Reds. When I was obtaining some flower samples from Gordon Boone, I wanted to show him the color difference between Reds and Pinks when the pigments were extracted. All Pinks turn a vivid orange red in the alcohol extract while Reds show a wine to bluish red color. I picked a plant that Gordon and I thought was a Pink. When I made the extract, the color was red and not orange. The supposed "Pink" turned out to be a very pale Red, not a Pink at all. This mistake of a pale Red for a Pink happened on several occasions during the study. There is a potential for plants to be misidentified to color when registered unless a pigment analysis was done in suspicious cases. If a breeder was using one of these plants in a cross thinking it was a Pink, the offspring would not be what was expected. This type of cross was the object of a question to Bill Johnson's column (Johnson, 1989) where an apparent cross of two Pinks produced some Red offspring. It may be useful in the future to test some of the pale color plants before using them in a cross to make sure of the exact pigment they contain.

There is a second factor besides the quantity of the pigment that should be mentioned in some of the shade differences. A second chemical, not an anthocyanin, acts as a copigment and tends to give a "bluish" tinge to the basic anthocyanin compound. The absence or low presence of this chemical gives a "reddish" tinge to the flower. The difference between plum, true blue, and blue-violet flowers, for example, is due to the action of this second chemical even though these flowers may have equal quantities of the Blue anthocyanin pigment. A similar effect is seen in Red flowers where the copigment gives the flower a darker blue-red color. Brighter or true Red and Coral Red flowers have a low quantity of this second chemical. Pinks seem to be less affected by the presence or absence of the copigment. The tests conducted in this study did not measure the amounts of the copigment so its relative effects on flower

color shade are not included in the results.

Plants with dark tips or two toned, such as Art Deco, were found to have only one pigment present. The difference in these flowers is in the concentration of that pigment within the flower. The lighter center areas have a small concentration of the pigment while the darker tips have a higher concentration. This same pattern is true for plants with Sparkle Plenty or raspberry edges; they also contain only one pigment. The difference in their appearance is in the pigment concentration between the various parts of the petals.

In summary, the results of this study show that 7 categories of pigments were found in the flowers of African violets. All of the flowers reported in Part I were found to have only one type of pigment in the flowers. The differences between dark and light shades and pattern effects such as raspberry edges were due to differences in the concentration of this one pigment. African violets, however, are known to sometimes have mixtures of pigments in them, such as in those with fantasy blooms. Part II of this paper will report on the various combinations and mixtures of pigments found in the flowers.

Acknowledgments:

Thanks to Gordon Boone, Nolan Blansit, and Frank Tinari for graciously supply flower materials for analysis. The use of the laboratories and cooperation of the Botany and Microbiology Department at the University of Oklahoma is appreciated. Financial support for chemicals and supplies was provided through a grant from the Boyce Edens Research Fund. This project would not have been possible without the understanding and loving support of my family for all the weekends spent in the lab.

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- Khokhar, J. A., J. M. Humphreys, K. C. Short, and B. W. W. Grout. 1982. Anthocyanins in African Violet. HortScience 17(5): 810-811.
- Smith, J. 1990. Yellow Fever Continues. AVM 43(1) : 43-44.
- Werckmeister, P., K. Hayashi and Y. Yasaki. 1966. One the Constitution and inheritance of a new delphinidin glycoside "Floridorin" from the cultivated Irish variety Florida. Der. Zuchtar 36 : 233-235.

Table 1: Pigments Found In African Violets

1. BLUES:

Malvidin 3-Rutinoside-5-Glucoside

Blue Nimbus	Midnight Elf
Crystal Plum	Mrs. Gregg
Cowboy Blues	Ness's Ballyhoo Blue
Darth Vader	Winter's Gold

2. REDS:

Peonidin 3-Rutinoside-5-Glucoside

Ballet Fairy Queen	Optimara Colorado
Blansit Seedling EB-8	Optimara North Carolina
Boone Seedling 136	Reddy
Deanna	Tina

3. PINKS:

Pelargonidin 3-Rutinoside-5-Glucoside

Art Deco	Maiden Blush
Berry Splash	Pink Jarrett
Emperor	Silver Wings (trace)
Enchanted Halo	Trail-a-long

4. CORALS: Pelargonidin 3-Rutinoside
Coral Honey Coralette
Coral Moon Vulcan Queen
Coral Radiance

5. CORAL REDS: Peonidin 3-Rutinoside
Amigo
Billy Penn
Dyno-mo
Red Electra

6. YELLOWS: Flavonol
Blansit Seedling EW-7
Blansit Seedling EW-45
Blansit Seedling DG-35

7. WHITES: No Pigment Present
Light Fantastic
Unknown White
White Cameo
White Disco



Top winners at a recent Paumanok (NY) AVS show were Gloria Rutmayer, Best Interpretive plant arrangement; Melanie Weber, Second best in show and Best single standard, *Bud's Melanie*; Joan Stuckey (first time entering plants in an AVSA affiliate show), Best in show and Best variegated, *Painted Sunrise*; Jane Weber, Third best in show and Best species, *S. orbicularis purpurea*; and Marilyn Heinrich, Best in design and Best interpretive flower arrangement.



mini - tidbits



Florence Naylor

2647 Harbor Boulevard, Ventura, CA 93001

'Tis the season for many spring African violet shows. After the Boston experience, to kick off the year, we all return home with high hopes for our affiliate shows. Do send me your list of top winners as they occur around the country. The Memphis AVS held its fall show, resulting in the following winners: Best in show and Best trailer was Brazos Trail. Second best in show and Best miniature was Toy Castle. Best semiminiature was Precious Pink. All winners were grown by Katherine Steele.

I've noticed recently, more and more trailers are standing in the limelight as best in show. That's a tribute to the vast improvements that have taken place in growing techniques as well as new cultivars introduced by our hybridizers. Snowy Trail was consistently a show stopper until Falling Snow came along, among white trailers. Snowy Trail had one flaw that has plagued many growers who grow under lights. It tends to go pink after a period of time. With the introduction of Falling Snow, with its marvelous floriferousness, Snowy Trail has taken a back seat to the consistently growing Falling Snow. Happy Trail and Trail Along now must compete with the likes of Rosebud Trail and Brazos Trail.

The best part about growing trailers is that one doesn't have to be concerned with suckers. The more suckers, the better shape a trailer will have, as long as the three drop minimum required for a bona fide trailer has been met. When all suckers develop at the same rate, the round shape desired will more likely result in uniform bloom production. If you want to promote sucker formation, pinch the growing tip of the center stalk. This stops upward

growth and results in side shoot formation. One advantage to growing trailers is that they will produce beautiful show plants even growing in natural light. For the beginner who hasn't yet invested in lights, this can be a rewarding experience.

For more information on growing trailers, check out how to do it "Japanese Style," in past issues of the AVM. You may find acupuncture needles work for you. When I tried the needles, I didn't see much difference; but then I may not have the technique down as it should be done. Let me know how you grow these plants and what your results have been.

Reporting forms are available. Send me a self-addressed stamped #10 business envelope and I will send you as many forms as desired. There are four forms per page. Let me know how you grow all your plants — semiminatures, miniatures, trailers — that you are proud to own. I am particularly interested in deviant growth habits or patterns you have experienced with your plants; i.e., Snowy Trail turning pink after some time under lights; Snuggles blooming as a single bloom instead of a double blossom as described by the hybridizer, etc. The plant may still be a wonderful plant, with loads of bloom and symmetrical overlapping foliage, but different from the given description of the hybridizer. We would like to be aware of these differences as they occur to see whether they can be attributed to culture or genetic aberrations.

I would like to thank all who sent in their 25 favorites list. I should have them tallied for reporting in the July/August AVM column. Happy violeting!

Registration Report

Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway
Hollywood, FL 33019



Reservations are good for a two year period and cost \$1.00. They may be renewed for one more two year period. Registrations cost \$5.00 unless you have paid for a reservation and it is still within the two year period. The cost is then \$4.00.

Hybridizers - When you send in your registrations, please check the Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors, and Judges for the correct descriptions of your foliage. Leaves should not be listed as quilted and plain. They are either one or the other but they cannot be both.

NEW REGISTRATIONS

Irene Fredette - Hamden, CT

*Tiger's Son - Standard - Semidouble/double royal blue-purple. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, plain heartshaped, glossy foliage. - #7257 - 12/21/89

Dottie Wilson - Bryan, TX

*Dixie Fiesta - Large - Semidouble/double pink fantasy with blue specks. Tommie Lou pink variegated, pointed, quilted foliage. - #7258 - 1/20/90

*Maggie Lee - Large - Semidouble vivid pink with geneva edge. Medium green plain foliage. - #7259 - 1/20/90

Kent Stork - Arlington, NE

*Quilting Bee - Standard - Full double frilled two tone lilac shading to pale silvery lavender at petal edges. Medium green quilted glossy foliage. - #7260 - 1/22/90

*Tomahawk - Large - Semidouble/double

vibrant red. Dark tailored foliage. - #7261 - 1/22/90

Mary Gall - Leawood, KS

*Little Jayhawker - Semiminiature - Single white and blue multicolor bell. Medium to dark green, girl, serrated, glossy foliage. - #7262 - 1/29/90

Travis Davis, Ochlocknee, GA

*Hoot-N-Toot - Standard - Semidouble two tone orchid purple with darker tips. Pointed, quilted dark green foliage, red reverse. - #7263 - 1/29/90

*Just Fun - Standard - Semidouble two tone lavender purple with dark shading and thin edge. Medium green pointed, quilted foliage. - #7264 - 1/29/90

*Love Talks - Standard - Semidouble lavender wine star, sometimes with some white. Medium green, pointed, quilted foliage. - #7265 - 1/29/90

*Midnight Comet - Standard - Semidouble medium blue star with thin geneva edge. Variegated pink and white foliage, dark green, red reverse. - #7266 - 1/29/90

*Peach Puff - Standard - Semidouble peachy pink two tone star with darker upper petals. Medium green, pointed, quilted foliage. - #7267 - 1/29/90

*Ruffles-N-Swirls - Standard - Semidouble pale lavender with white and/or dark purple. Mosaic variegated, pointed, quilted foliage. - #7268 - 1/29/90

*Snow Fire - Standard - Semidouble multicolor white and hot pink star. Light green quilted, pointed foliage. - #7269 - 1/29/90

*Star Shot - Large - Single dark blue violet star

with geneva edge. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green pointed, plain foliage. - #7260 - 1/29/90

*Sweet Amy Rebecca - Standard - Single medium pink two tone with darker eye. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green, pointed, plain foliage, red reverse. - #7271 - 1/29/90

Hugh Eyerdom - Medina, OH

*Dorothy Parker - Standard - Double fringed blue lavender, variable green edge. Dark green, wavy, ruffled, glossy foliage, red reverse. - #7272 - 2/8/90

*Fantasy Fringe - Standard - Double ruffled bright pink fantasy with blue specks. Light green wavy foliage. - #7273 - 2/8/90

*Fantasy Sprite - Standard - Semidouble light pink-lavender with light blue fantasy. Medium green quilted, glossy foliage, red reverse. - #7274 - 2/8/90

*Fantasy Sunburst - Standard - Semidouble chimera, bright pink, dark blue fantasy, blue center stripe. Light green pointed, plain glossy foliage, light pink reverse. - #7275 - 2/8/90

*Fashion Flair - Standard - Double two tone pink-orchid with dark red-orchid shading. Medium green hairy, quilted foliage, reddish reverse. - #7276 - 2/8/90

*Julie Ann - Standard - Semidouble pink coral with blue fantasy, raspberry glitter edge, geneva edge. Medium green quilted, glossy foliage, red reverse. - #7277 - 2/8/90

*Katy - Standard - Semidouble light blue-lavender with darker petal tips, geneva edge. Dark green quilted, glossy foliage, reddish reverse. - #7278 - 2/8/90

*Kumiko - Large - Single chimera, medium pink with blue fantasy, blue center stripe. Medium green quilted, pointed foliage, light pink reverse. - #7279 - 2/8/90

*Misty Cloud - Standard - Semidouble deep blue with wide white edge. Dark green pointed, plain glossy foliage, reddish reverse. - #7280 - 2/8/90

*Orchid Glory - Standard - Semidouble red-orchid pansy with a white edge. Medium green hairy, wavy foliage which may sport to be non wavy, red reverse. - #7281 - 2/8/90

*Pink Radiance - Standard - Double medium pink with red raspberry glitter edge. Medium

green pointed, quilted, glossy foliage, light red reverse. - #7282 - 2/8/90

*Rose of Lorraine - Standard - Double deep red-orchid with white border. Medium green hairy, quilted, glossy foliage, red reverse. - #7283 - 2/8/90

*Tye Dyed - Standard - Double two tone purple-lavender, geneva edge. Dark green quilted, glossy foliage. - #7284 - 2/8/90

*Utako - Standard - Full double slightly ruffled reddish lavender two tone, darker edge, thin geneva edge. Dark green pointed, serrated, glossy foliage, red reverse. - #7285 - 2/8/90

NAME RESERVATIONS

Bobbe Huntting - Roseville, CA

*Annie Laurie * Painted Lady * Tundra Bells *
Tundra Skies * Tundra Snowflakes * Tundra
Trumpets *

Nancy Johnston - Bakersfield, CA

* Shirley's Joy * Saucy Missy *

Glenda Simpson - St. Marys, GA

* Blue Bayou * Fantasy On Ice * Roselle *

NAME RESERVATION RENEWALS

Joen Gehr - Eagle River, WI

* Christmas Fantasy * Full Moon * Manitou *



Dolores Larsen of Kent, Washington received this "special order" Christmas present from her daughter. Dolores had recently won Best in show with *Granger's Silvertone*. "I hope they other club members will understand that this was a present and I'm not intentionally bragging," said Dolores, "but as anyone who has captured Best in show can tell you, it is quite a proud accomplishment."

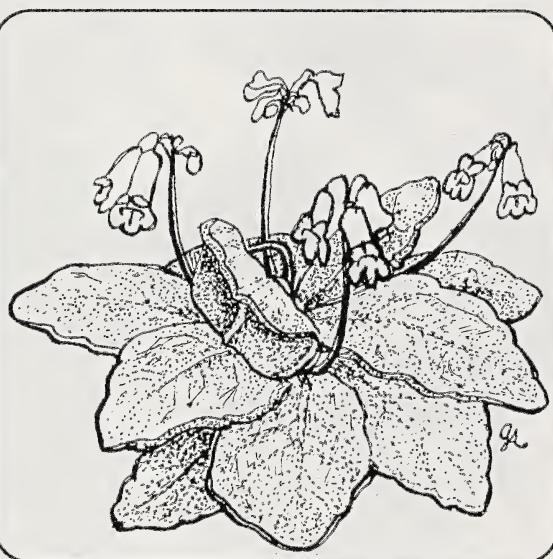


Call Me Friend
Jeannette Domiano, hybridizer
grown by Linda Bjorkman of Broken Arrow, OK
Best in Class • 1989 Kansas City Convention

photo by Ed Johnson

A Family Portrait

Geogene Albrecht
101 Oak Heights Drive
Oakdale, PA 15071



Chirita Sinensis

Of the more than 90 species of *Chirita* (cheer EE ta) only a few have been popular in cultivation. Most of the species are herbs growing from the Himalayas to southeast Asia. "Chirita" is a "Hindustani word for gentian" which probably reflects the bluish-lavender color of the blooms. The most popular ones are the silver and green leaved forms of *Chirita sinensis*. Their growth habits are not like the saintpaulia even though it will form a rosette shape. Each pair of leaves has an opposite growing closely enough to form a rosette pattern. The foliage is variable, some leaves are long and narrow while others are wide with short petioles. *Sinensis* with more green than silver in the foliage is much easier to bloom. The extremely silvered varieties are grown mostly for foliage because they make a handsome specimen.

Chiritas like the cool temperatures on lower light garden shelves and greenhouses. Vegetative propagation is necessary because their seed, if produced, may not be viable. One of the silver leaved cuttings produced an all-green plantlet. The blooms are bell-shaped beauties in all shades of light lavender, lavender-blue and near white. *Chirita micromusa* has yellow blooms which resemble *Episcia* flowers. This species is grown as an annual which produces many seedpods.

The largest *Chirita* I've seen, was grown on a wick watering system. If they are overwatered, the leaf tips and edges turn brown. If lower leaves yellow, repot in fresh soil after removing some, but not all, of the old soil. Do not sink the plant much deeper when repotting because it promotes suckering where leaves have been removed. Avoid water on the foliage.

Microencapsulated

Isn't that a "neat" word for a new process that encapsulates a pesticide for slow release? X-Clude® (PT® 1600A), a microencapsulated pyrethrum aerosol, is available at most garden centers and nurseries. It's wonderful! Two weekly sprays eradicated foliar mealybug from a *Columnea*. X-Clude® is approved for use on saintpaulias and other ornamentals in homes, florist shops, interior plantscapes, etc. The label does have restrictions and we must use common sense about not breathing such things. Let me caution you, please, do not try a new product on your entire collection. This product worked for me but so many factors can change the outcome. Remember to spray only in favorable temperatures, without bright light or drafts. If a plant needs watering, do not spray

until it has recovered.

Microencapsulated insecticides are between 12 and 27 times less toxic to us because they are released in small amounts. The aerosol X-Clude® is manufactured by ©Whitmire Research Laboratories, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri 63122. Here's how it works. Pesticides are encased in minute nylon-like cases which hold the chemical from the atmosphere, thereby releasing small amounts gradually. It creates a protective barrier, yet, does not seem to harm the plant tissue. Lethal doses of pyrethrum, a natural pesticide derived from certain chrysanthemums, are effective against chewing insects. When X-Clude® is sprayed, nearly 27 million tiny capsules are released every second. It is expensive, about \$10 for a large, 16 oz. can. This manufacturer also markets Orthene (PT 1300) but it is not listed for use in homes, shops, etc. They produce Knox-Out (PT 1500A) and Resmethrin (PT 1200) in encapsulated aerosols for greenhouse use. Follow every pesticide instruction exactly. No exceptions.

The Pink Episcias

Thelma Langley, 1718 Utah N E, Albuquerque, NM 87110, a violet commercial, requests a source of miniature gesneriads in her area and she would like to know the secret of growing *Episcia* 'Cleopatra,' 'Pink Brocade' and 'Peppermint Brocade.' *Episcia* can be pronounced either "epISSee a" or "epiSEE a." First, look where the plant comes from: namely Mexico to Brazil. They love heat, high humidity and at least 800 footcandles of light; therefore, they are usually grown in containers. Their foliages cause further difficulties; it may have only 50% green pigmentation. How does it manufacture enough energy to grow all the pink and white tissue as well as those offensive orange-red flowers? This tells us to use fertilizer formulas low in nitrogen because the plant just can't use much. The very delicate root systems resent salts build-up in the growing medium. Mine seem to grow better in glass containers, not plastic. These pink foliages are prone to rot if a flower decomposes on or near them, for this reason, mine are disbudded.

To root or start a cutting, select a stolon with

at least four mature leaves, remove the bottom two and insert the nodes just beneath the growing medium. Do not use rooting hormone compounds. The best medium is made by emerging whole, long-fibered, sphagnum moss in boiling water until cool, then pressing out the excess moisture and dunking it into the following. Add a 10-30-10 water soluble fertilizer and one drop of Superthrive or any other growth stimulant, to water, preferably, rain, spring, well or distilled. Know the water you use. Only two to three inches of growing medium is necessary because these *Episcias* have extremely shallow root systems. If available, place horticultural charcoal in the bottom of your container. Tear chunks of the prepared sphagnum moss to create a very light, airy medium. Use two parts sphagnum to one part good African violet soil mix which is thoroughly dampened. Very little water is added to the planted cutting which can be placed in bright light immediately. Do not close the container until all foliage is dry. If you want just one large plant, stolons must be removed. If leaves rot when they touch the medium, try placing some dry strands of sphagnum on the growing surface. My containers are completely covered with plastic wrap so that they stay clean. When the wrap gets dusty, it's about time to check the moisture inside. Fresh wrap makes it look crisp in seconds. If foliage rots easily, there may be too much moisture and excess condensation. Place a dry layer of paper towel on the medium but away from the foliage. When it is removed, wipe condensation from the sides. Repeat if necessary.

Pronunciations

If you wish to have a complete, concise pronunciation list of *Gesneriaceae* please send for the book that Walt Maurus compiled. It contains 64 pages, with hundreds of species names as well as terms and meanings. It is \$7.50 ppd. from Walt Maurus, P. O. Box 2247, Livonia, MI 48510.

Thank you, for your kind responses to a column on gesneriads. Commercial growers are welcome to send me a list of plants available. Sources will be published in this column.



Spacedust
photos by Paul Sorano

Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses

Blueberry Mint



Having Fun With Plant Arrangements

Mary Stallings
3709 Gunmont Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76133

Our thoughts will be on designing with a living plant, removed from its pot and placed in a design planned and constructed to accommodate its size and enhance its beauty. This must be done following the rules of the AVSA handbook design division and flower show schedule for Interpretive Plant Arrangements.

There are two classifications of floral design — Decorative and Interpretive. Decorative designs are used in our homes to adorn a certain place and these are the ones you see in magazine advertisements. Interpretive designs we use in our flower shows as we interpret a given them, mood, an idea, an occasion, or an atmosphere. This design is also referred to as Expressive. The words "design" and "arrangement" are also used interchangeably. I use design as it is the teaching trend of the day. So what do you wish to be — a designer or an arranger?

Most of us are horticulturally oriented. We joined a violet club to learn to grow our beautiful plants and design is something we admire, but are hesitant to undertake. But this is part of our flower shows and we can grow as an exhibitor or judge if we learn to support this division.

Horticulture + design = balance. That is a good club member. Try a design — you may find a hidden talent.

Suggestions for a young designer

1. Study — be careful of your choice of reference books. Check the date of publication.
2. Practice - Practice - Practice.
3. These two help eliminate the state of self consciousness and helps build confidence. Do what your emotions suggest — forget what other people say or think. In fact, someone will relate to your work.
4. Read and understand the design division of the AVSA handbook and the show schedule.

You MUST follow the show schedule.

5. Most important is understanding how the scale of points are used to evaluate your design. Learn to evaluate your work using the AVSA guidelines for each category. This will help you correct faults.

6. What I appreciate about AVSA rules is that we are judged by the merit system. You are in competition with no one to win a blue ribbon —



**"Moulin Rouge"
Can Can Dancer**

Materials:

Panchu springs
Painted gourds
Rose Glow Barberry
Violets - Little Rose Quartz



"Alming High"

Materials:

Umbrella plant

Purple sage

Violet - Snuggles

only AVSA scale points. Competition comes only in top awards and you place yourself there with a blue ribbon. Really, it is hard to find faults totalling 11 points to earn a red ribbon—but red is beautiful and you are a winner for trying.

**Helpful hints
for plant arrangements**

1. Set up the total space — background and underlay. This is given in the schedule as "size of niche." Working in the total space helps determine the size and scale of the other components.

2. To secure the materials in the container, first anchor a needle-holder to the bottom. Then add a cut piece of oasis to fit snugly in the container and let it extend about 2" above the rim. Then press gently until the oasis is seated on the needle-holder. The needle-holder stabilizes heavy plant material and the oasis is

needed to help anchor the plant.

3. Miniature and semiminiature plants are the best size to use. Most standard plants will overpower the design.

4. Place the plant in the design so it will be facing slightly toward one front corner.

5. If the plant material moves in the oasis this can be eliminated by adding a small piece of fine steel wool between the stem and the oasis.

6. Choose a plant that has never been potted down; the root system is much easier to work with. Remove soil, leaving a small amount to keep the root system moist.

7. Cut a sandwich bag corner about 2" in a circular form. Place plant in this and form pleats around the stem near the base of the plant. Anchor each pleat with a short piece — less than an inch — of Scotch tape. This will now form a collar around the base of the plant. You will be able to form the root system into the



Nature's Texture

Materials:

Mullin (dried)

Native grass (dried)

Violet - Little Pro

size of the area you have planned.

8. To help anchor the plant, I use a Solo cup. Remove the bottom and top, forming a circle of about 2 inches. Cover this with green tape or paint. Make two long hairpins of heavy green wire (determined by container depth) and place on either side of the ring. Insert hairpins into oasis at the desired area. I often remove some of the oasis before placing the ring, to give more room for the plant ball. You should have a secure place for the plant and it will not be affected by the water in the container.

9. To create depth, recess some plant material behind others.

10. Plant arrangements are constructed the same as cut arrangements, except that a living plant is used. To protect, anchor, and show the

plant's beauty is your challenge.

All floral designs will fall into either Traditional or Creative design types. The Traditional (handed down from the past) designs are bound by rules, styles, or traditional patterns. Traditional designs are an art form IN space. Creative designs are the results of a Creative idea of the designer, using plant material and other components to organize the design elements, within the limits of the principles to allow freedom of expression. Creative designs are an art form OF space. You are free to express ideas with no restrictions other than requirements found in the flower show schedule and AVSA handbook. Do not worry — think positive — and above all, have fun with your creation. Happy designing!

The Language of Love

Walt Maurus
P. O. Box 2247
Livonia, MI 48150

Violets are rubrus
And also cyaneus
Some others are azureus
and the new color is luteus

Carolus Linnaeus (1707-1778) started it all when he created the coding system used since then to create names for plants using meaningful bits and pieces of Latin and Greek. He created a language of love, Binomial Nomenclature. Binomial means dual or two-name and Nomenclature means a naming system.

Many plants are known by their common names but each and everyone of them has also a botanical or scientific name — a Linnaean name. Botanical names, if you take a good look at them, can afford a whole lot of very interesting information about the plants. For instance, purpurea means purple. That's an easy one, isn't it? Cyaneus means dark blue and roseus means rose or pink colored. Alba means white and sanguinea means scarlet red (bloody). Rubrus also means red.

Now, of course, the above are the basic colors of violet flowers. Oh yes, the newest one, yellow, can be luteus or aureus. The reason I'm mentioning all of this is that, somehow, Saintpaulias managed to bypass the usual Linnaean Procedure of plan naming as far as flower color is concerned — with one exception — the species given greatest credit for our modern hybrids, ionantha. This is, of course, because roseus, alba and others had not yet been found or created when species were discovered and named. Ionantha means violet-colored and refers to the color of wild, hardy, outdoor violets. Flower form and color are similar.

Linnaean nomenclature has to do with the naming of species found in Africa, but if Latin/Greek naming had been adhered to in modern times, the African Violet Register maintained by AVSA would read very differently. An example would be *Saintpaulia cyaneus 'Tiger.'* It would tell us that this violet's flower is blue and is the cultivar known as 'Tiger.' *Saintpaulia azureus 'Wonderland'* would be the light blue

(sky blue) cultivar by Granger Gardens. *Carneus* means pink (flesh-colored) and *cardinalis*, of course, means red. The beautiful red-flowered hybrid on the January/February 1990 AVM might have been known as *Saintpaulia cardinalis 'Tomahawk'*.

Species violets have flowers that could be said to be singly petaled. They form a five petaled arrangement around the center. An early mutation was to produce a six petaled flower with a symmetry quite different. If such a flower were green (as some are today) the plant might be known as *Saintpaulia viridus aster 'Blarney'*. *Viridus* means green and *aster* means star (astronomy). Actually *viridus* and *aster* might be combined to be *viridasterum*. Botanical names use such shorthand.

Most African violet lovers know that a "ge-neva edge" on a violet flower is lighter in color than the rest of the flower. An example would be *Saintpaulia coeruleus marginatum 'Hawaii'*. *Coeruleus* means blue and *marginatum* means colored differently on the margin. A red/white striped (chimera) violet might be referred to as *Saintpaulia zonatus rubralba*. *Rubra*, of course, is red and *alba* means white and *zonatus* means "in zones" or stripes. The cultivar name would be added. In the case of a flower with an edge darker than the rest, it might be known as *Saintpaulia albarosia marginatus 'Kiwi Dazzle'*. If you are familiar with this cultivar you know that the flower is white (*alba*) with a red (*roseus*) edge. A great favorite for many years. One of the earliest so-called chimera violets, known popularly as pinwheels or stripes.

The species *Saintpaulias* have provided much diversity in foliage size, shape, color, veiny patterning, and edge patterns. Hybridizers have taken advantage of their genetic perks to produce the spectacular cultivars we enjoy today. A remarkable development was the very variable variegation in foliage and, of course, *Saintpaulia variegatum 'Autumn Beauty'* would be an example as would *Saintpaulia variegatum 'Lilian Jarrett'*, one of the most beautifully variegated-leaved violets — a true golden oldie. *Pictus* and *picturatus* (pictured) also mean variegation.

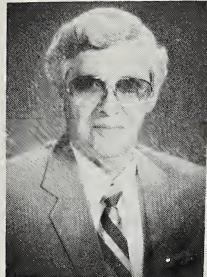
To look at the names of species reveals much

about how the species were given their names. *S. brevipilosa* means with short hairs. The nature of the hairiness of leaves was an important factor studied to differentiate one species from another. *S. grandifolia* just means with large leaves. *S. nitida* means shining, smooth, which suggests the appearance of the leaves. Shiny, smooth leaves are probably sparsely haired — like the so-called "holly" leaves. *S. orbicularis* leaves are circular (orb), round and flat (disc-shaped). And, *S. velutina* does mean that the leaves feel velvety.

I'm a bit discombobulated (how's that for a scientific word?) about how to refer to floral singleness and doubleness. *Unipetalus* would mean one-petaled, but the basic *Saintpaulia* flower has five petals, so maybe it would have to be *pentapetalus* (pentagon). But how is a double flower identified? What is doubleness? How is it defined? Has anyone counted petals of "double" flowers? Or am I nitpicking beyond belief?!



Judy Partain is shown holding *Georgia Lover* which won Best in Show at a recent African Violet Council of Florida show. Theme for the show was "Violets on the Go."



AVSA AFFILIATES

*Bill Foster
Affiliate Chairman
3610 Gray Drive
Mesquite, Texas 75150*

It has been a busy spring ... many schedules have been read and approved, and as many SSA packets have been mailed out. I enjoy reading the schedules so much. Of course the horticulture sections are pretty well "cut and dried," but some real imagination comes out in the design section. When I became Affiliate Chairman, my predecessors, as well as our Shows and Judges Chairman, advised me to use common sense and discretion in my approval of affiliate show schedules. I have tried to exercise this policy. On occasion, I will approve a schedule that may vary a bit from rules set forth in the Handbook. Usually a note is sent to you, advising that while I am allowing the "somewhat questionable" item, that sometimes the judges may overrule and judge strictly by the rules in the Handbook. The judges are within their rights to do this and I try to make you aware of this. I think that if you have a creative idea, something that we might some day add or change in our Handbook, it is at least worth a trial. A recent incident of this nature was allowing a club to include a class in Interpretive Plant Arrangements using a plant without blossoms. I can certainly visualize a lovely variegated plant that would be more eyecatching than blossoms. If the judges object, this can be one of those "display only" things that usually will not hurt anyone if it is not counted toward the SSA score. If the judges choose to do it this way, I hope they will at least give their opinions. Occasionally, we must all be "renegades" and try to introduce new ideas. If it weren't for new ideas we'd still be walking rather than driving and flying! Besides, taking a chance, if not life threatening, adds a little spice and takes away the boredom.

Wasn't the Convention in Boston great! It is always such a great pleasure to see all our

friends again, to see a lovely show, and to be able to "latch" on to some new varieties. Thanks should be heaped on the Boston folks for a job well done. If there are those of you who are not appreciative of efforts of the convention sponsors, get involved in one yourself ... I guarantee that you will be more appreciative in the future.

ATTENTION AFFILIATES: We now have a little manual that will be very beneficial to affiliate presidents and AVSA representatives. It is the "Guide For Affiliate Presidents and AVSA Representatives." It is a little booklet that will greatly aid you in conducting a meeting in the proper manner and sets forth some guidelines for the AVSA representative to be more efficient. You may order it for \$1.50 per copy, postpaid, from the Affiliate Chairman. New affiliates will be given a free copy of this booklet, but all others must pay! Make checks payable to AVSA.

And now for a brief message to say "good-bye" as your Affiliate Chairman. It has been an honor to serve in this position. I will miss your interesting schedules and cherish the friends that I have made and occasionally correspond with. Please welcome the new chairman with the same warmth you welcomed me with a few years ago. I will not be far away — I will be speaking to you in the future as Shows and Judges Chairman. It is going to be tough to follow someone as graceful and efficient as Emilie Savage. It will be a new challenge and Emilie has agreed to "be there" when I need a counselor. Please be patient with me in my new endeavor. May there always be a "Blue Rosette" in your future

**AVSA Memberships
Make Great Gifts.**

Hurry! Send Your Awards Now For The Santa Clara Convention Show

Esther Edwards Wells
AVSA Awards Chairman
948 Fair Oaks Court
Liberty, MO 64068

Make your plans now to participate in the 1991 AVSA Convention by donating an award for the Convention Show. Awards are needed for all parts of the show — horticulture and design, amateur and commercial. Why not join other members and affiliates in recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of the many exhibitors at the Santa Clara Convention Show.

All awards for the 1991 AVSA Convention in Santa Clara, California, should be sent to:

Esther Edwards Wells
AVSA Awards Chairman
948 Fair Oaks Court
Liberty, MO 64068
(home 816-781-2160)
(work 816-781-1821)

The deadline for submitting awards is September 15, 1990, in order for the awards to be listed in the January issue of the African Violet Magazine with all of the other details about the Santa Clara Convention. Awards will still be accepted until January 1, 1991. Please make every effort to send your awards early.

Cash awards must be paid in U.S. funds by check or money order payable to AVSA Convention. Appropriate items other than cash will be accepted; however, please do not send gift certificates.

When sending an award, please include the following information:

Name of award or donor

Address of contact person

Amount of award or other appropriate item

Request for specific class, section, or variety (amateur horticulture, commercial horticulture, design, named variety, etc.) if available

Cash awards which cannot be awarded because there are no qualified entries are given to AVSA. All awards must be sent to the Awards Chairman.

Don't miss your chance to be a part of the 1991 Convention Show.



Walter Spangler is shown holding *Wrangler's Snowfields* which was part of his AVSA collection which won first place at a recent African Violet Council of Florida show. Theme for the show was "Violets on the Go."

Hybridizing is Fun

Sue Lasswell

Hybridizing African violets is fun and easy. Contrary to popular opinion you don't need acres of greenhouses to be a hybridizer. One of our best hybridizers today started in a closet of his apartment. The thrill of seeing your first seedling bloom is like Christmas. Each one will be different and you'll never know until the bud opens.

Choice of parents

The first step in hybridizing is the choice of parents. The best seed parents are usually singles or semidoubles. Pollen can come from any violet although some doubles have very little. Some thought should be given to flower color.

If you use a blue or purple for one parent most of your seedlings will have blue or purple flowers. Pink, red, white and fantasy flowers will give you lighter colors. If you want stars you have to cross stars on stars.

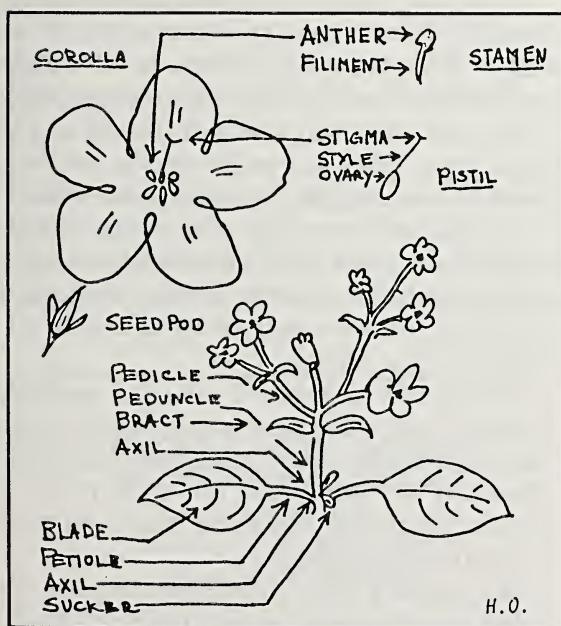
Crossing girl foliage with normal foliage will give half of your seedlings girl-type leaves. To get the variegated foliage like Tommy Lou or Mrs. Champion's violets, the seed parent has to

be a variegated plant. There are many surprises that turn up when two plants are crossed.

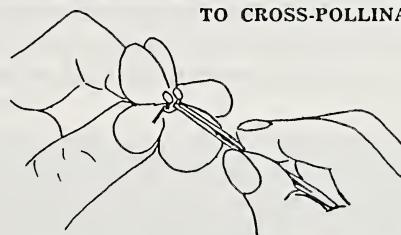
Examine a blossom

The parents are chosen — so what next? Examine a flower on the plant you choose for the seed parent. As you look at the flower you will notice in the center of the petals is a greenish stick-like thing. This is the stigma or female part of the flower.

You will also notice two or five little yellow round things. These are the anthers and contain the pollen. The African violet usually does not self-pollinate itself so these do not have to be removed from the seed parent. Make the same investigation of the pollen parent you have chosen so that you are familiar with it also.



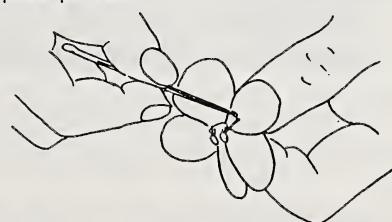
TO CROSS-POLLINATE



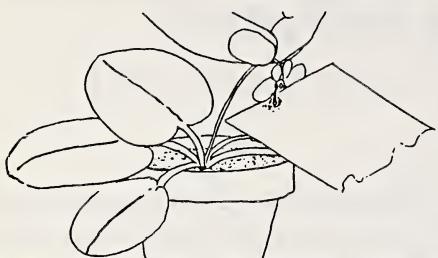
Select male parent blossom and remove anther with tweezers.



Next, on clean white paper, cut anther open to expose pollen.



Hold anther in tweezers and place against stigma of female parent plant.



If you prefer, put pollen on clean white paper and hold against stigma of female parent plant as shown.

AVM

Pollinating

Now you are going to play bee. Choose a couple of flowers on your seed parent that have been fully opened for a couple of days. With your fingernail or a pair of tiny scissors snip off one of the anthers from the pollen parent. Take a straight pin and poke a hole in it. You will find some yellow dust in it.

This is the pollen. Gently put some of the dust on the stigma of the seed parent. Make sure you completely cover the tip but don't bruise it. Now label your cross. Take some sewing thread and string a small piece of paper on it. Write the name of the seed parent first and then the pollen parent.

You may want to use a code because your piece of paper is small. I use the first initials of the name; for example, Miriam Steel x Whirlaway would be written MS/W. Write the code in a note book so you know what it means, if you use code.

Seed pod develops

Now comes the waiting. Within a week to 10 days the flower on the seed parent will wither and the green stick will begin to swell as the seeds in the ovary begin to develop. Sometimes the cross doesn't take, so when that happens you can try again either with the same parents or different ones.

Eventually you will get a seed pod which takes between three to five months to mature. It is a good idea to put the date of the crossing either in your notebook or on the label so that you can watch the stem of the pod at about three months.

The stem begins to dry from the plant outward. When it begins to do this remove it and put it into a small glass (not plastic) jar without

a lid. In a week or so it will be completely dry and ready for sowing.

Planting seeds

Prepare a seed flat for the seeds. I use small refrigerator dishes with clear lids. Whatever you use, it must have a clear lid. Violet seeds need light to germinate. Put about 1" of fine vermiculite in the container and moisten it. Pour off the excess water and set aside.

Get a small piece of paper (about 3" x 5") and fold up the sides so that it makes a kind of box. Now take your seed pod and open it over the box. Be careful not to blow on it as the seeds are tiny and light. You may have anywhere from a couple to a hundred or more seeds.

If you don't have space for all the seedlings, plant only part of your seed in the seed flat. The best way to do this is to sprinkle the seed from the corner of the box by gently tapping the paper with your finger.

If you want to save some seed, get a piece of lightweight, smooth paper like tissue paper. Cut out a small square about 3" to 4" across. Fold a crease down the middle, then open.

Put the seeds in the crease and fold up the paper securely. Put the package in an envelope and write the cross and date on the outside. Store in a cool, dry place. Try to plant them within 3 to 4 months for the best germination.

Germinate seeds

Place your seed flat in a warm, light place. My favorite place is on top of the ballast of my lights. This give gentle bottom heat. In about two weeks you should see some tiny seedlings. They will have two roundish leaves and be light green. They are really tiny so you may want to use a magnifying glass to see them.

If they don't come up in two weeks, don't throw them out. I've had them wait as long as three months. Don't let the container dry out. If necessary, mist the seedbed lightly.

Transplant seedlings

Two weeks to a month after the seedlings come up, prepare some community pots. These should be shallow, large trays. I use clear plastic shoe and sweater boxes. Put 1" to 1-1/2" of sterile, fine potting mix in the boxes and moisten with warm water.

My mix is 1 quart Redi-Earth, 1 quart vermiculite and 1 cup dolomite limestone. This has

no fertilizers, so after the seedlings get started they must be fed. Set the boxes aside for a couple of hours so that the mix can absorb all the water it can. Any excess should be drained off.

To transplant seedlings I use a magnifying glass and tweezers. Most of the seedlings will still be tiny and only have their seed leaves. Do not try to pick up the seedlings directly. Just pick up the chunk of vermiculite it is growing on and put it on top of the planting mix in the box. Space the seedlings about 2" apart. Cover the boxes and put in a warm, well-lighted place.



Remove tiny plants when they have 3 or 4 leaves, using a toothpick or tweezers. After transplanting give plants a weak solution of fertilizer. Do not overfeed the young seedlings.

AVM

The best way to fertilize the seedlings is by misting. Mix the fertilizer one-fourth the strength in very warm water and mist them about once a week until they have four to six leaves each.

Seedlings to blossom

Pot them up now just as you would for young plants from a leaf. Put them on your regular feeding program but give them a misting once a week if your humidity is low.

About six to eight weeks after potting you should start to get your first blooms. They may not be anything for a big commercial grower to crow about but they are yours and they are beautiful. Save the ones you like best and give the others away as gifts.

"Guide For Affiliate Presidents
and AVSA Representatives"
available now
from Affiliate Chairman.
Price: \$1.50 - postpaid



Tustana (CA) AVS membership and friends enjoyed a fun, unofficial "AVS Dawg Show" recently. There were over 40 entries received in the 11 classes. The Innovative schedule was followed precisely and arranged on the tables as in a regular AV show. The divisions and sections were divided by strips of black crepe paper. Classes included: Chewed Slippers, King of K-9s, Pooper Scooper, Dirty Dawg, Super Dawg and Dachshund, in the horticulture division and The Mutt, Guard Dawg, and Banished to the Dawg House in the Design Division. Above is the winning show plant and below are some of the participants.



If you handle sphagnum moss a lot and have any open sores, wear gloves, warns the current issue of American Horticulturist. Cutaneous sporotrichosis is a fungal disease found in the moss which spreads up the arms leaving red streaks. Potassium iodide is the recommended treatment.

AVSA EMBLEMS

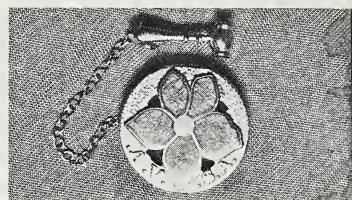
(Give a Friend a Gift)



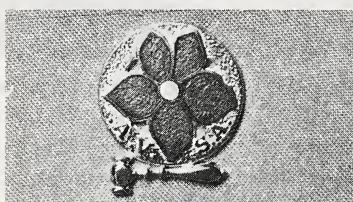
A - 201
Member Pin
GP or Silver - \$12.75



B - 203
Member Charm
GP or Silver - \$12.75



C - 202
President's Pin
GP or Silver - \$18.50



D - 221
Past President's Pin
GP or Silver - \$18.50
(with Tie Tack) - \$18.50



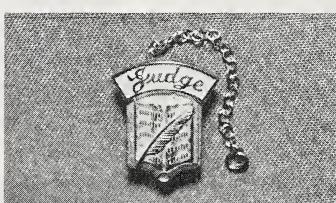
E - 204
Past President's Charm
GP or Silver \$18.50



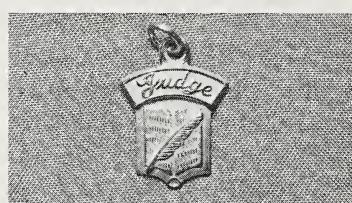
F - 211
Gavel & Chain
GP or Silver - \$6.00



G - 234
Judge's Pin
GP or Silver - \$8.00
(with Tie Tack) - \$8.00



H - 210
Judge's Guard Pin
GP or Silver \$9.50
(chain attaches to other pins)



I - 208
Judge's Charm
GP or Silver - \$8.00

New Arrivals: Life Member Pins

Goldfilled - \$24 • Silver - \$20.00

The Language of the Gavel

By Ann Richardson

Did you who own AVSA pins with a gavel know that there is a language of the gavel? The angle of the gavel tells a story, as follows:

President-elect:



While in Office:



(as in use — rapping for order)

Past-President:



worn down, as at rest.

Some of the clubs in the south present their President-elect with the pin and gavel immediately after election so that she may wear her pin showing that she is President-elect and also during her presidency.

Are Your Plants Thirsty?

Dolores S. Larsen
10503 SE 232nd Street
Kent, WA 98031

Before violets, outdoor gardening was more to my liking and on the rare occasion I chose to impulsively bring home a houseplant the poor plant would finally die from lack of attention. I had no reason to expect any different reaction from an African violet but they grew beautifully. I had finally discovered a plant I liked so much it could not be ignored.

As usual, with any new interest, I began reading and reading. One warning kept flashing up from the pages, "Don't overwater!" This was described over and over again as the primary fault of a novice grower. My plants looked pretty nice to me but I finally became fearful that perhaps I really might be overwatering. So, I cut down. What happened? My plants still didn't look bad but I began to notice, when I repotted, that the soil was becoming very dry, even hard. My plants were struggling and thirsty!

Probably the most frequent questions and answers are (1) "Why don't my plants bloom?" ... "Probably insufficient light," and (2) "Why are there so few blossoms?" ... "Try a fertilizer high in phosphorous — one with a high middle number." As good as these answers are, they are not the *only* answers. If a plant does not receive enough moisture, both through the soil and from the air, through humidity, blossoms may not form at all or they may start to form then suddenly dry out leaving telltale withered "wisps," never developing into the healthy, robust peduncles they should have been. If this is ever observed the plants really need to be watered more frequently or more deeply (letting the water flow through the soil until it drains). To fight dry air, which certainly contributes to the drying of the would-be blossoms, spraying *over* the plants with a mist of hot water will do wonders — just watch the response!

My own soilless mix contains no garden

soil or clay. It is extremely light and very well draining and requires more water than a heavier mix. Each grower seems to have a preferred mix but it is very important that, whatever the type, the grower seeks to attain a knowledge of its moisture retention abilities and always uses the identical mix for each plant. When a new plant comes to join the others, repot it right away so that during the time the new plant is in "isolation" (to assure that it is healthy) it will also have had time to become accustomed to that potting mix. A side benefit of this is that it will allow you to inspect the roots of new plants immediately.

This was normally my strict rule but during a lax period I left new plants in the original soil. I found these did not grow well for me even though I knew the plants had come from good growers. Their soil just wasn't right for my method of growing and if you have a lot of plants you can't take the time to make exceptions for a few plants (if you can even find them after they have been removed from isolation).

Growing conditions, other than soil, are much more difficult to change but really can make a difference in watering requirements. That is why different growers, even in the same cities, get different results from the same cultivars. If plants are grown under artificial lighting they do not experience the seasonal changes as do plants grown in natural light and usually will require more water because they are constantly growing. Plants grown in the main living areas will require different care than those grown on upper floors or in a downstairs basement space because of different temperatures, dry or damp conditions, or those in rooms which may not have adequate ventilation. Each home is limited in its space accommodations. Try to evaluate each growing area separately.

I've learned that I should water more often

and that most of my problems result from underwatering rather than overwatering but I seem to find it difficult to adjust my time to continually provide the needs of all the plants I decided I "just couldn't live without!" If you have a population not easily handled but intend to show, keep those show plants together in one area and allow more time to be given to that group.

One happy note to this is that it has been a pleasant discovery to find that these plants will survive and still look pretty nice even when they receive a certain amount of neglect. (I always apologize to them if I have really been careless.) Be aware of the warning not to over-water but know that much depends on your circumstances. There are also some cultivars which seem to demand either more damp or more dry conditions. If those plants become a problem you have one of two choices, either stop growing them or flag them to catch your immediate attention as you tend to your watering. Remember that the best warning of all is still, "Don't experiment with *all* your plants at the same time." It is also wise to make use of that old standby, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!"

Important Notice: Senior Judges

If your Senior Judge certificate expires this year, you may apply for the renewal examination between June 1 and September 1, 1990. Allow up to two weeks for delivery. Write to Mrs. Frances King, 3327 28th St., San Diego, CA 92104. Do not send a SASE. The fee is \$3.50 (make check payable to AVSA) and is all inclusive. The deadline for returning the completed examination for grading is October 1, 1990.

Those Advanced Judges who meet the requirements for applying for their first Senior Judge examination may send documentation of eligibility and \$3.50 check to Mrs. King. See the AVSA Handbook for requirements. Allow up to three weeks for delivery.

Applications postmarked after September 1, 1990 will be returned and application may be made next year. Completed exams postmarked after October 1, 1990 will not be graded. Allow three weeks or more (after October 1, 1990) for grading and return of examinations.



Giving recognition for contributions made to the society and for their faithfulness in attendance at meetings and other functions, the Baton Rouge AVS of Louisiana honored four octogenarian members, Nellois Gremillion, Betty Sloan, Belle Higgins and Gladys Markland.

Growing

Peggy Clover Stipek
1620 Poplar Street
Denver, CO 80220

Like many of you, I'm "nuts" about African violets. I also happen to be a special education teacher in a suburban middle school. My students look and act like most any kid in sixth, seventh or eighth grade but for whatever reason, their reading, writing and math skills are just not "up to snuff" regardless of how *hard* they try. Learning can be a very exhausting, frustrating business for them. We adapt the material to their levels as best we can and try, try, try to keep them interested in school.

Last year was my first year back in middle school after six years in high school. The kids can be very sweet, but also very cruel to each other and to the adults around them. They need lots of patience and hands-on learning experiences. It was exhausting for me! This year, I decided was going to be different. One of our charges from special education was to give the kids some career awareness. That could be field trips, speakers...anything we liked. I decided we were going to grow African violets.

I bought the wood, paint and lights and made some shelves. The kids all took turns painting. It was fascinating to see how even eighth graders could get more paint on the sidewalk than on the boards! I was determined not to mind. If this project was to be a success, the kids had to feel it was *their* project. The vice-principal brought in his drill, we braced the shaky white shelves together, and I gave the eighth graders the staple gun to put cardboard scalloped trim around the rough edges. I hoped no one would get hurt! We hung the lights, filled the trays and I began to answer can't-wait questions for 30 potential growers.

Doug Crispin of the Violet Showcase, a former teacher, was very supportive and helpful. He had some young plants that were on sale for half-price to move extra stock and he helped pick out the strongest baby plants he had. We got supplies, and I worried that I was sending these little ones to a watery death! Some of my

violet club members had kindly offered to donate baby plants, but the kids were so wound up about "adopting" plants by this time, I decided not to wait until a club member could come in to get them started. I must have bought at least 30 plants of all different colors so kids could pick out the ones they liked best. The big day came. We repotted all the plants. They used math to decide how big of a pot to put their plant in. Why the wicks? Was this deep enough? The kids all had to learn how to put the wicking straight through the grating so the plant wouldn't dry out, how to be careful not to break someone else's plant or dump it on the floor, what the plant felt like when the water was "just right" and how to keep their hands off the spray bottle and "pleeeze don't squirt the other kids!"

Waiting for flowers seemed endless. Then we got (yucko!) thrips. We removed all our blossoms to get rid of the "violet varmints" and sprayed and waited for more blooms. It was a sad day. Some kids were as curious to see a thrip as they had been to see flower buds.

One came up to me daily to ask, "Is this a sucker? Can I please have it?" By this time we were putting down leaves, and thrilled kids were getting baby plants. As the idea of propagating sank in, one said, "African violets are a lot like bunny rabbits!" (How true!) Another figured out how to cover the leaf with a small plastic bag and still wick water. His leaves did the best, so now we use his system at school. The plants have filled the shelves, spilled out onto an adjacent table and some have gone home. Proud plant "parents" bring their friends and other adults to class to show what they've done. I've gotten in the habit of grooming our plants in the few odd moments throughout the day and found it relaxes me. I can have a very stressful class, spend less than five minutes on the violets, and be ready to smile at the next group. Another benefit has been that my stu-

dents have gotten much closer to me this year because we're sharing a common interest. There are a couple of cases where the kid was a very poor student whose behavior was miserable to work with but s/he grew beautiful African violets, and it gave me a chance to say something positive to that student every day. A few have taken violet growing to heart and are trying to get their parents to let them have plant shelves and lights at home. One boy wanted to grow a plant for our spring show but we didn't quite know how someone age 14 could enter. These days, a trip to Doug's African violet store is considered a big reward. One little sixth grade boy who has first grade reading skills, *hates* to write stories and has very poor self-esteem, has promised me 10 days of hard work in my class if I will take him and let him pick out a BIG African violet. ("Honey", I thought..."I will get you one the size of a bushel basket if you will learn to read and write for me!"")

We have grown a lot more than I thought we would this year. Katherine Brago is coming out to talk to the kids about violets soon. Ron wants to see if the shop teacher might have some extra wood to build some shelves. Roger would like to have a mini-show at school, and he proudly tells people he has 35 plants. Some kids have lost interest or moved on to the aquarium, but that's okay. We will sell excess plants at school around Mother's Day and I want to send the money to help a school I visited in India where children have no shoes, and their teachers would most like to have better books and a multiplication chart.

There was an article in the September 1976 African Violet Magazine by Mrs. Lahla E. Yakel about starting a Junior African Violet Club in her school. It got me wondering how many of you began growing violets as children? If you'd like to share your story with my students, please do send it to me. I might even be able to get them to write back.

**Next Convention?
Santa Clara, California
April 23 - 28, 1991**

Thrips Hop

Gen Zondlo
3326 Lincoln St. N.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55418

It puzzled me why thrips appeared after a violet show of three days. When they appeared, I would put up a fresh No Pest Strip and that would take care of them.

No Pest Strips have been difficult to find because Vapone, the active ingredient, has been under review by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It is not recommended to use strong insecticides for plants grown in homes or basements. A supplier recommended the use of Sticky Strips to monitor the area.

I put a strip on my shelf, and the following day I had a few thrips and one fly trapped on the tape. These thrips could hop six to 12 inches.

A few years back, we used moth balls to get rid of insects. So I put 20 moth balls in an airtight plastic container, 14" x 20" x 8", and put violets in it for 24 hours (no longer). I used this method seven to 10 days apart, doing my violets three times. That got rid of the thrips.

I have just received good news! Very recently the EPA has down-graded the possible risks associated with the strip, and apparently they will remain on the market. Manufacturers are planning to increase production and the strips should be easier to find this summer.

**The 1989 Supplement
to the
Miniature and Semiminiature
Variety List
is now available.
Send a self-addressed,
stamped envelope to:
AVSA
P. O. Box 3609
Beaumont, TX 77704**

FORMing More Successfully

Joyce Stenger
13601 Deerwater Drive
Germantown, MD 20874

Recently I was privileged to start a new affiliate club only to discover a lack of accessible forms used for club documentation and activities. After consulting with other established clubs as to how this situation was handled, I found myself with a meager assortment of forms. This small stack of duplicated copies included blanks for news releases, president's order of business sheets, show theme questionnaires, committee report sheets, violet history cards and other miscellaneous forms.

Most of the forms had some blanks filled in requiring a need to "white-out" areas before recopying. One form had been duplicated so many times it was no longer centered on the page. Several were difficult to read because of over reproduction. The worst form had its heading running off the top of the page!

Since documentation is along my line of employment, I rebuilt those forms on a computer, making adjustments for our own club's specific needs and promptly put them to good use.

One of the forms, I will share with you. The "Suggested Show Theme" page is shown at the end of this article. We ran off copies so everyone in our club could have a copy and asked them to fill in the blanks. Included was a sample that was filled out. Any category can be deleted or others added per individual schedules. The sizes of the niches is the size the AVSA uses for its standard show designs.

Hint: Choose a project plant first then build the rest of your theme from that point.

Example: A project plant could be 'Maverick's Summer Love' from Winston Smith. The show theme might be "Summertime Violets." Predominant colors might be summer colors of sun yellow and sky blue. The staging props could be a hammock, glasses of iced tea and perhaps garden gloves or sunglasses. This is easy.

A terrarium title could be "Vacation Get-

away;" a natural garden could be "Backpacking;" a miniature planting might be "Lemonade Stand;" the medium planting might be "Biking in the Park" and the large planting could be "Picnic at the Beach." It gets easier as you go.

The miniature arrangement could be "Hopscotch;" the medium arrangement could be "Roller Skates;" the large arrangement might be "Amusement Park Rides." If a mobile is included, it could be called "Colorful Kites" and for underwater arrangements we could have the "Ol' Swimming Hole."

This form makes it happen so easily, everyone should try filling one out and handing it in to their show chairman before the next show. We had so many completed forms, it will be years before we need to issue another request.

If your club has created any handy forms that cause operations to run smoother, I would like you to mail it to me. If correspondence unveils more interesting forms, I will continue sharing these with AVSA readers so all affiliates can benefit from them.

SUGGESTED SHOW THEME

TO: SHOW CHAIRMAN

SHOW THEME: _____

PREDOMINANT COLORS: _____

STAGING PROPS NEEDED: _____

A) TITLE: _____ (TERRARIUMS)

B) TITLE: _____ (DISH/NATURAL GARDENS)

C) TITLE: _____ (MINIATURE PLANTING)

D) TITLE: _____ (8-12" PLANTING)

E) TITLE: _____ (LARGE 26" X 22" X 18" PLANTING)

F) TITLE: _____ (MINIATURE CUT ARRANGEMENT)

G) TITLE: _____ (8-12" CUT ARRANGEMENT)

H) TITLE: _____ (LARGE 28"X 22" X 18" CUT ARRANGEMENT)

I) TITLE: _____ (UNDERWATER CUT ARRANGEMENT)

J) TITLE: _____ (MOBILE WITH CUT BLOSSOMS)

K) PROJECT PLANT: _____ (THEME COORDINATED)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY: _____ (Member)
jas 10/89

What Judges Look For in a Show Plant

George Starr
2602 Graupera Street
Pensacola, FL 32507

We had a program at our club meeting entitled, "What Judges Look For in a Show Plant." The grooming check list below, was used as a hand-out to help the members as we discussed each point. It was not intended as an all-inclusive list, but as a memory jogger and could be useful when getting ready for a show. The list was made, using the *AVSA Handbook for Growers, Exhibitors, and Judges* as a guide. Other clubs may wish to make a copy of this (or design a similar one) for each member as they strive to improve their shows.

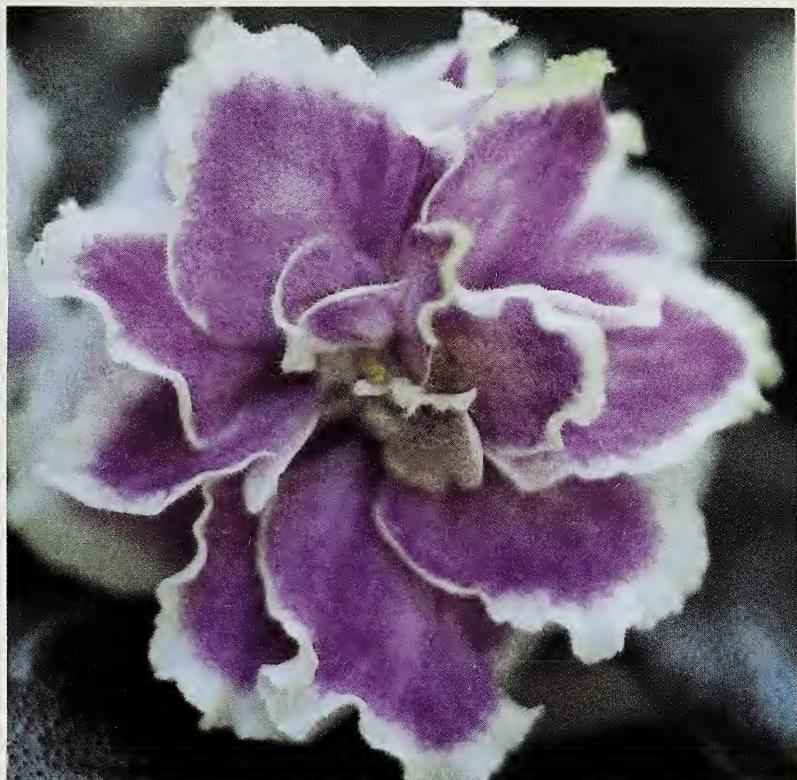
GROOMING CHECK-OFF LIST

<u>SYMMETRY -</u>	<u>Check-off</u>
Shape of the plant	_____
Gaps between leaves	_____
Petioles straight out from stem	_____
Rosette - overlapping leaves	_____
<u>CONDITION</u>	
Maturity of plant	_____
Signs of insect damage or disease	_____
Suckers, labels & leaf supports removed	_____
Plant centered in pot	_____
Over or under potted	_____
Neck on plant	_____
Open pattern, soil showing excessively	_____
Interrupted growth (row of small leaves)	_____
Bad leaves - marred, yellowing, spots, brown edges, etc.	_____
Baby leaves - smaller leaves below large leaves	_____
Soil, dust, spray residue on leaves or petioles removed	_____
Spent or damaged blossoms removed	_____
Wrong variegation	_____
Petiole, peduncle &/or pedicel stubs removed	_____
Identity on pot before covering	_____
Foil covering. Foil turned down evenly inside pot	_____
<u>QUANTITY OF BLOOM</u>	
Number according to variety and type	_____
Std. mature plant - 20 to 25	_____
Small std plant (8-10") - 10 to 15	_____
Minis & Semiminis - 5 plus	_____
Trailers - Blossoms on all crowns	_____
<u>SIZE AND TYPE OF BLOSSOM</u>	
Size of blossom according to variety	_____
Type of blossom according to description	_____
<u>COLOR OF BLOSSOM</u>	
Color according to description	_____
Wrong color or hue	_____
Solid color among multicolor & vice versa removed	_____

Grown
and photographed
by

The
Crispins
at
The
Violet
Showcase

Swift's
Rose Embroidery



Granger Gardens Masayo



Growing Optimaras For Show

Linda Bjorkman
10508 S. 198th E Ave.
Broken Arrow, OK 74014

Imagine my surprise and delight at the Awards Banquet during National Convention in Kansas City, when I found that my assigned table included three AVSA "greats," Anne and Frank Tinari and Reinhardt Holtkamp, Sr.! These stars of the Violet world are true violet enthusiasts, and we chatted culture of our favorite plant, immediately.

I was especially impressed with Mr. Holtkamp upon learning that he actually involves himself personally and actively in growing his hybrids and in showing them in international competition. He generously shared growing tips with me, and I felt his growing hints would be well worth sharing with you.

Mr. Holtkamp's Optimara/Rhapsodie violets are hybridized and grown in greenhouses under optimum conditions. They are bred to flower profusely, even in low light conditions, ideal for the window gardener. When introduced to a fluorescent light garden at the normal spacing between plant and bulbs (10-12 inches), the grower will soon be fighting tight centers and brittle foliage. Mr. Holtkamp recommends a spacing of 18" for standards and 12" for miniatures. You may have to adjust this according to your growing conditions.

Another major remedy to the tight foliage is using "Grow-Bulbs" instead of cool-white to give the plants a more natural light spectrum. Mr. Holtkamp said that the use of cool whites would cause the plant to grow too compact due to the amount of blue light given off. A normal timing of 10 to 12 hours of light per day is fine.

I was very surprised to learn that all of Mr. Holtkamp's gold medal winners are grown strictly in his greenhouse without even auxiliary fluorescent lighting to help out any fluctuations on sunlit days.

Mr. Holtkamp selects three vigorous plants of each variety to be shown, chosen at the first flowering stage. They do not disbud, except once, seven weeks before the show. When they

disbud, they remove the entire bloom stalk, taking off as many as are easily removed. They expect double the normal amount of flowers when it blooms in seven weeks.

When Mr. Holtkamp selects his show plants, they are relatively young plants (in the first flowering) in 4" azalea pots. They usually do not repot these plants since they will be shown approximately 15 to 16 weeks after selection. If a largeleaf span is desired, they can be moved into 5" or 6" tubs using the "mold" repotting technique. (Use a 4" pot and mold your soil mix around it inside of the next-size-up pot, water the molded soil, withdraw the 4" pot, and move your plant into the tub). This minimizes transplanting shock, lessens chances of leaf breakage, and almost eliminates soil on the leaves and petioles.

Mr. Holtkamp encouraged me to watch out for salt buildup in the top 1/3 of the soil caused by bottom watering. When the salt builds up, it will cause great damage to delicate feeder roots, and in such cases, the healthy white roots will be found in the bottom of the pot, but few in the upper 1/3. To control this, he recommended alternating top and bottom watering with a slight drying between each. Their water temperature is 75° — too warm a water temperature, as well as too cold, will cause damage to the leaves. What we feel as lukewarm is probably closer to 90°, so water left overnight is best (this will also allow the chlorine to dissipate).

A balanced fertilizer is used throughout the main growing period (14-12-14), and they do market their own fertilizer, which is premium quality. Mr. Holtkamp does recommend a high middle number such as 5-50-17 used during the disbudding period until the bud count is set — approximately 2 to 3 weeks. It is important to go back to a balanced formula after that. He explained that this would produce larger flowers in a more intense shade with the stalks held well above the plant. They do not usually foliar-feed

unless the plant is showing a nutrient deficiency.

The Optimara soil mix is 80% peat and 20% shredded styrofoam. I asked Mr. Holtkamp about the high peat content and he assured me the mix is pH adjusted with dolomite lime. They feel vermiculite holds too much water. Those of us who cannot duplicate his greenhouse conditions may find a need to add more perlite to maintain the proper ratio of air in the soil mix. Wick watering will keep the mix more moist than his system of watering does.

My personal experiences of growing Optimaras for show have taught me to allow as much time as possible from the time of purchase to show time. A full year for the standards is almost minimum and six to nine months for the miniatures. My Optimaras underwent a culture break when introduced into the light garden. This may be caused by the change from greenhouse to light garden and the varying conditions they have endured after they leave their greenhouses. My plants arrive at the supermarket only after going through a plant broker, and it is not known what less-than-perfect conditions they endure and for how long. I have

gained favor with the floral shop manager who usually calls me when a shipment arrives so I can select from many, and they are much fresher than when I just stumble on their remnants days later. Also affecting a culture break in the leaves is whether you decide to keep them disbudded during growth time. Thus, it could take up to a year to grow a standard with at least three rows of show leaves grown in your conditions with earlier leaves pruned off. I have not noticed a significant break in the leaf size of the miniatures as long as they are kept in the thumbpots. I struggle with keeping them in the thumbpots over a long period of time, as a neck is difficult to pot down with such a tiny soil space and root ball to work with. Yet a neck is inevitable since they need to be kept groomed to keep within the 6" size. Thus, six months seems a more reasonable time frame.

It was a great honor to be able to talk to Mr. Holtkamp in person, and to receive advice from such a master grower. I hope these hints will help you give your lovely Optimaras the kind of care that will produce a gorgeous show plant for you.



At a recent Pasadena (TX) AVS show, winners were Pat Gonzales, Best gesneriad, *E. Kee Wee*; Kathe Foust, Best miniature, *Snuggle Bear*; Marsha Bagley, Best trailer, *Honeysuckle Rose*; and James Bradbery, Best standard, *Apache Maiden*.



Rob's Bedazzled
Rob's Never Naughty

photos & hybrids
of Ralph Robinson



Gardens in Miniature

Ruth Coulson

(Reprinted with permission, "The African Violet,"
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In our annual show, the class for miniature gardens is one that does not see many entries, but certainly deserves more. This is artistic work that can be carried out at home, not in the rush and bustle of show setting up time, and it gives full scope for the exhibitor to display his skill both in growing and in the artistic use of the plants. Fortunately the gesneriad family is full of plants which are suitable for this use. Even if you do not wish to exhibit, but would like to make up a miniature garden for your own enjoyment, you will be delighted with the result — and may even go on to make it an exhibit.

Suitable plants.

Our show schedule says that plants of the gesneriad family must predominate, other plants being used sparingly, only for foliage effect. This is probably a good rule to stick to even if only making the garden for display in your own home.

Miniature plants of all types are suitable. Miniature and microminiature violets are ideal, those with very tiny flowers particularly. Miniature and micro-miniature trailers are especially good, as their informal growth habit fits in well in a natural landscape.'

Suitable miniature gesneriads abound. Miniature sinningias are probably the first choice — particularly the very tiny *S. pusilla* and White Sprite. However, other mini sinningias can well be used, although those with small flowers will look better than the large flowered ones. The rather bushy, trailing ones — Freckles and Tinkerbells are also excellent.

Small single plants of *Gesneria* (yellow and orange flowers) and *Gloxinia sylvatica* (orange flowers) can be used successfully. In this color also, *Nematanthus wettsteinii* with its upright to spreading growth, tiny bright green leaves and orange flowers can be used. All the plants

of Phinea (white flowers and silver netting on the leaves) that we have grown, are good. *Diasistema vexans* with soft green leaves and trailing spreading growth can give a nice effect too, with very small white flowers that are in good proportion to the garden you are creating.

Gloxinia lindeniana has very pretty veined leaves so that young plants of that are a good choice. The miniature *Episcia Silver Skies* can be used, as can small rooted stolons of other *Episcias*.

Non-gesneriads to use for foliage only, can include:

Miniature Peperomias

Fittonia minima

Selaginella (club moss) - particularly the golden form

Cryptanthus - small, young rosettes

Helxine (baby's tears) - as a good ground cover

Ferns - particularly miniatures, but young plants of most

Small palms, dracaenas, etc., for height

Do not use:

Any plant whose cultural requirements are different from the rest of the garden; for instance, succulents and cactus which need more sun and less moisture.

Garden annuals or perennials, as they need other conditions and have flowers not suitable to mix with gesneriads.

Standard African violets (too large)

Anything which grows quickly to a large plant

Un-rooted cuttings (of anything)

Moss - best used only for a short term. It declines quickly in some indoor conditions, needing a lot of light and a lot of moisture.

Container.

Now having some suitable plants to make up your garden, the next thing to select is a dish or

bowl to arrange them in. It should be shallow, but can be round, oval or oblong. Terracotta pot saucers make probably the most pleasing, natural-looking containers. They can be had in varying sizes and at 3-4cm (app. 1-1/8" - 1-1/2") deep, provide a nice amount of root area for the garden.

A problem can be that the terracotta is not impervious to water, which means that furniture could easily become stained indoors, and that the garden will need more frequent watering.

Much the same shape saucers can be had in plastic. They are light in weight and easy to use. Choose one with a strong, non-flexing base, if possible. Normally it is best to keep to neutral, inconspicuous colors such as beige, dark rust, chocolate brown and dark olive, so that attention is centered on the plants, not on the container.

Highly glazed pottery containers such as the shallow bonsai pots can be used, but probably only suit highly stylized garden designs.

For some shows, there are size restrictions for miniature gardens, but there is not for the AVA. In home use, you will make the garden of the size to suit the area you have to display it. For showing, keep in mind that you have to carry it.

It is not necessary to have drain holes in the container, and this will give greater flexibility in safely placing the garden to advantage. Exercise great care in watering where there is no drain hole.

Before planting the garden, turn the container upside down and attach a piece of felt, or flock furniture protectors. Soak terracotta well before use.

Designing the Landscape.

Would you like a grassy meadow with some flowering plants under the branches of a tree? Or do you prefer a piece of bushland complete with a mountain stream in your loungeroom? It is all up to your imagination, and you can really let it run riot. However, to create a pleasing and convincing miniature landscape, there are a few points you should consider.

a. Scale. Keep a natural relationship between the size of the garden, plants, leaves, flowers,

rocks and accessories. In fact, it is not possible to have a completely perfect scale model of a natural landscape, but the illusion should be there.

Imagine yourself to be 2cms (app. 3/4") tall, walking through your garden. Would things seem 'right'?

b. Color. Relate the colors of the leaves, flowers, accessories and in fact everything in the garden. Simple, single-color schemes are best because of the small scale. Try to keep to, say —

Blues (with white and green and gold foliage)

Pinks and lavenders (with white, and grey and green foliage)

Yellow and orange (once again with white and green)

Naturally this is only a guide. Colors can be combined in other ways as availability of plants and your own color sense dictates. Remember that white flowers and golden foliage is important. Their use helps to avoid any unpleasant dingy look.

c. Height. There should be a variation in height in both the soil level and the plants used.

Soil level should be even with the top of the container at the edges but can vary otherwise within it. Create higher areas by retaining with stones to simulate rocky outcrops. Areas of soil lower than the rim of the bowl will help to emphasize the change in level. The high levels will provide areas of deeper soil for plants with larger root systems.

The plants themselves vary from ground covers to some which may be up to about 1-1/2 times the width of the garden in height. These taller plants are essential to the naturalness of the garden and can give a pleasing sweep of line for the eye to follow. Plant the highest material so that the top of its stem is over the near-center of the dish, a little toward the back.

d. Space. Miniature gardens always look better if they are quite heavily planted. Avoid any stuffed-in appearance, though by having areas of open space, at least one open area being of about one quarter of the area of the garden. Evenly spaced plants are not as natural or pleasing as this arrangement.

These open spaces can be filled with a ground cover, which must have very small leaves, like helxine or club moss. (The leaves should be smaller than those of all the other plants in the garden). Helxine can be grown in quantity in seed trays, outdoors, and transplanted into the garden as needed. It needs quite a lot of light to keep small and compact.

Pebbles, sand or similar are alternatives for ground cover. They can be used right over the garden to cover the soil. Bare soil rarely looks good in a miniature garden.

e. Accessories. These help carry out the design of the garden. There are two types - the natural materials, and manufactured figurines, etc.

You can use quite a lot of the former. Rocks, both large and small, pebbles, paving stones, driftwood, etc., are parts of the landscape, both visually and mechanically (they help hold the soil in place). They provide height and space.

Figurines should be used with care. Rare is the miniature garden which can endure more than one, or at most two of them. Use nothing garish, and make sure that they are in scale and stylistically suitable for the garden.

f. Unity. The whole garden and its container is a unit, and care should be taken to keep all the elements related. Make sure there is a natural relationship between them. There should be variation and contrast for interest, but avoid a spotty look. Don't keep all the flowering plants in one area and the foliage in another.

Remember that the unity of this work is within the confines of the bowl. Plant materials and accessories should not overhang the rim.

Planting.

You have spent little time planning the design of your mini-landscape. Now spend a little more deciding upon the final arrangement of the plants.

First, spread a layer of fine charcoal over the base of your bowl. Arrange the plants, still in their pots, in the container until you find pleasing proportions and spacing. Before taking them out of their pots, give some thought to whether you have enough plants. A miniature

garden of only 30 cms (app. 11-3/4") diameter will use a surprisingly large number of plants if you wish to achieve the look of an established, growing garden. Mature plants, or at least those with some flowers on, and more obviously to come, should be preferred. Remember, all should be growing plants — no un-rooted cuttings.

For showing, all the plants must be actually planted in the garden. For decorative home use, however, you may elect to leave certain plants in their pots, sinking the pots into the surrounding soil. This makes it easy to replace plants which cease flowering, or otherwise past their best. Much the same advantage can be gained, however, if you avoid teasing out the roots of the plants, but just fill in between them with extra soil.

Soil here means just your ordinary African violet potting mix. Don't use anything with much fertilizer because fast growth is not wanted, just good health.

When planting, put your fallen tree trunks, rocks, etc., in as you go, letting some plants drape over the rocks and others nestle at their base. Stand back and examine the result with care now. You may still decide to change some things around, or even take them all out and start again.

When completely satisfied, finish by placing ground cover plants, pebbles, etc. Be sure to keep the leaves of the plants above the ground covers. As the garden should be made for all round effect, finish the back of the garden with just as much care as the front.

Water with warm water in a hand sprayer. Use this also to wash particles of soil from rocks, leaves, etc.

Maintenance and Grooming.

The most important maintenance is watering regularly and sparingly.

Because of the small size of these gardens, every damaged leaf, every particle of dirt on the leaves, stands out. Therefore, groom carefully every week or so to get maximum enjoyment from your garden. Keep container and accessories clean too.

Keep the garden in as good light as possible, so it will not become leggy and so you will get

maximum flowers.

Use small scissors to prune plants if they outgrow their allotted space.

These things are even more important if you are going to enter your garden in a show. The good health and cleanliness of your exhibit will be evaluated by the judge, just as will the landscape design and the way you have carried it through.

African violets, however, do not have to conform to the rigid show standards for exhibit in a mini-garden. This is just the place for your minis that insist upon growing multicrowned, and for mini-variegates that refuse to flower.

How long does a miniature garden last? This depends upon the care it is given and especially the amount of light. By carefully replacing any

plants out of flower and rigorously pruning foliage, it may be kept in good condition. Usually after eight to nine months, the plants may be looking a little jaded and it may be wise to take the garden apart and re-do it with different plants, perhaps in a completely different design.

For showing, a mini-garden should look established, not newly potted up. But this relates very much to your skill in composing and finishing it. It could be done the day before, if necessary. However, 3-4 weeks seems ideal as it gives the plants time to settle.



Lynn Wallach of Nutmeg State AVS took top honors at a recent show with Best in show (12" or over), Tricolor award and Best variegated, *Wrangler's Canyon Echoes*; 2nd best collection, *Everdina*, *ThumbleSand Toy Castle*; Best in show (under 12") *O. Molokai*; Best semimini, *Irish Angel*; Best mini, *Wee Dear*; Best trailer, *Blustery Trail*; and Sweepstakes with 25 blue ribbons.



Deidre Marie Post, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Post, Gaithersburg, MD is enjoying the fresh smell of successful violet growing. Mother, DeAnne Post is a new AVSA member. Grandmother is Joyce Stenger, president of Sugarloaf Mountain VS in Germantown. Deidre is 2-1/2 years old.

Attention Affiliates:
The "Guide for Affiliate Presidents
and AVSA Representatives
is available now for \$1.50
from your Affiliate Chairman.

What Happened in the Beginning?

Dolores S. Larsen
10503 S. E. 232nd Street
Kent, WA 98031

We usually refer to 1892 as the year our violets were discovered in East Africa. In that year Baron Walter von Saint Paul, who owned plantations of vanilla and India-rubber trees, sent plants (seeds?) to his father in Germany. Those who believe seeds were sent seem to be basing this on the fact that, in those days, the trip from East Africa to Germany would have probably taken more than three weeks and they doubt that plants would have survived the trip but someone could have been traveling with and caring for those plants so they would have arrived safely. How could seeds have been grown so quickly into plants for Hermann Wendland, who in 1893, identified the plant as a new genus of the Gesneriaceae family, named it *Saintpaulia* and gave it the species name *ionantha*? In the spring of 1893 he displayed a flowering plant(s) at the International Horticultural Exhibit in Ghent, Belgium, where it shared honors as being one of the two "most botanically interesting plants in the exhibition." His botanical description of the plant appeared in "Gartenflora" on June 10, 1893 and it was featured in seven other floricultural periodicals, 1893 through 1895, in England, France, Belgium, Germany, Italy and America. This rapid sequence of events seems to indicate to me that plants must have been sent — unless the year was *not* 1892. I have seen the year stated to be 1890 and 1891, but no reason was given *why* those years were used and all other articles state the year to be 1892.

The firm of Ernst Benary was given commercial distribution rights in 1893. Shortly after seed production began, it was noticed that the seed capsules produced were of two different shapes, one long and the other round. Could there have been more than one species sent by Saint Paul? The elder Saint Paul had stated that "it was found in two localities, one about an hour from Tanga, in wooded places, in the

fissures of limestone rocks, as well as rich soil with plenty of vegetable matter." That place was "not more than 50 to 150 feet above sea level" and the second place was at 2,500 feet "in the primeval forest of Numbara, likewise in shady situations, but on granite rocks." He also said that *several varieties* had been discovered differing slightly in color of the flowers, but "all were blue."

It was sufficiently unusual for a new genus to have been discovered without suspecting that more than one species was in the shipment, but it was concluded that this had, indeed, been the case. On November 26, 1895, another plant from Usambara was collected (Buchwald 149) and finally, in 1906, C. B. Clarke named the "other" plant *S. kewensis*. Now the plot thickens — the true *ionantha* was the one which was being called *S. kewensis* and the "other" plant was called *S. ionantha*. B. L. Burtt sought to correct this error in 1947, so using the specimen Buchwald 149 as the type, which is proper procedure whenever possible in botanical descriptions, *S. kewensis* was declared to be a synonym for *S. ionantha* and a new name, *S. diplotricha*, was given to the "other" plant. Then, as new plants were introduced and knowledge of the plants increased, he discovered that he had made the same mistake as Clarke, both believing they were looking at only two species when in reality there were three. The wild specimen, Buchwald 149, had been accepted into the herbarium by Clarke as the true *S. ionantha*. This plant had been introduced into cultivation and so had a "rightful claim" to the name *S. diplotricha* which made it necessary for Burtt to again make a correction and he renamed the "other" plant *S. confusa* (in "Baileya," 1956). If all this sounds confusing, it was. Hence the name *confusa*, so named because of all the confusion. A great deal of inspection must have been needed in order to be certain

these plants were labeled accurately after more than 60 years of misidentification. We owe much to those involved in that task.

Not as well known is the fact that Saint Paul's plants were *not* the first discovered! The earliest specimen was collected by Sir John Kirk in 1884 on the coast "opposite Zanzibar." Burtt has looked at this specimen and has said that it is "in all probability true *S. ionantha*." In "The Great Rift," a book by Anthony Smith, I cam across a passage saying that a John Kirk was with David Livingston when he explored Lake Malawi in the early 1860s and that Kirk collected fish from the lake "showing zoologists in Britain that it was no ordinary lake." John Kirk was based in Zanzibar where he "became a one-man launching pad for British travelers wishing to explore Eastern Africa." I am assuming that this was the same John Kirk who discovered the violet.

There was still another plant discovered by the Reverend W. E. Taylor in the Giryama and Shimba mountains in S. E. Kenya, between the Teita Hills and the coast in 1887. In Mr. Burtt's 1958 studies he was unable to identify that specimen for it was "too scanty to assign to any species" and he had seen no other *Saintpaulia* from that region. In his additional notes to those studies he named *S. rupicola* as a new species. It had been found in that same area of S. E. Kenya and Burtt was finally able to recognize Taylor's plant as being *S. rupicola* after nearly 80 years.

There were, then, six species discovered prior to 1900. These were *S. ionantha*, *S. rupicola*, *S. diplotricha*, *S. confusa* plus *S. pusilla* and *S. goetzeana* which were found by Goetze in 1898. These are all now in cultivation with the exception of *S. pusilla* which has apparently disappeared. Were all six of these used in hybridizing during that time? It seems too late now to confirm any answer.

What do we know about that very early hybridizing? Benary had been given commercial distribution rights, but they limited their endeavor to seed production, concentrating on improving the deep blue blossom color, the size and abundance of flowers, the habits of plants, etc. They left the selling of plants, rooted cuttings and leaves, to others. In a letter to Miriam Lightbourn, Ernst Benary's grandson stated

that the breeding on *Saintpaulias* in Europe had been "confined to Ernst Benary, Efurt, Germany, during the first decades of the century." He went on to list four of Benary's introductions:

- 1896, *Saintpaulia ionantha rubra*
- 1899, *Saintpaulia ionantha grandiflora violacea*
- 1904, *Saintpaulia ionantha alba* (white)
- 1910, *Saintpaulia ionantha amaranth*

Why had these hybrids been given Latin names? I knew that species names were always in Latin, but I could think of no violet cultivars which were so named. Then I discovered that this was not uncommon in those days and although that practice decreased, it was not until 1959 that the ICNCP finally ruled that cultivars could not be given Latin names. R. H. Beddome, in 1908, listed *Saintpaulias* which had been introduced into cultivation. He described the pale lilac blossom as the "type," a very dark blue as *violacea*, a white violet-tinted as *albescens* and a reddish one which had longer leaves as *purpureus*. Helen Van Pelt Wilson, discussing Benary's plants in her book, mentioned *atrocoerulea* and *purpurea*. History has been lost, but it would seem that these names were probably results of seedling crosses, just as those listed by Benary's grandson.

Sutton's of England also offered seeds of the *Saintpaulia*. They do not keep records that far back, but in their catalog listing of 1895, *Saintpaulia ionantha* was described as a "novelty." A copy of their 1896 listing shows a photograph of quite a good looking plant which may have had more than one crown, but the copies I have are quite dark and details are not easily seen. A different photograph was used in 1900; not as good a plant as the other, by today's standards, and a multiple crown was distinguishable. They may have changed the photograph to more accurately portray the plants grown from the seeds. In the 1900 catalog, *Saintpaulia ionantha grandiflora* was listed, described as having "flowers much larger than the type; colour an intense violet." This was the year following Benary's introduction of that plant and because large seed companies frequently contract with others to furnish their seed, this causes me to believe that

Benary was the supplier of Sutton's seeds. There were a few owners of "stove-houses" who grew plants from seeds, but whether or not any of them did any hybridizing is anyone's guess.

Plants were brought to this country in 1893 or 1894 by a retail florist in New York City, George Stumpf. Two of his plants were purchased by William Harris, a Philadelphia florist. There were probably few plants grown in those earliest years since little was known about their culture and heating systems were different. They were advertised as greenhouse perennials but there were experimenters who grew them outside, bringing them in as the weather cooled. Some may have experimented in hybridizing, but I've uncovered none.

In 1927, Armacost & Royston of California purchased seeds both from Benary's and from Sutton's. It is puzzling why they obtained seeds from both firms if the seeds originated from Benary's, although they may not have known the seeds probably came from the same source. They grew, selected, and named ten of the seedlings and started distribution around the country. From these, now known as the "Original Ten," the popularity of the African violet had its beginning. Mr. Oertel supervised the growing of these plants and he tried to discover the parentage of the seeds, but could not. He did say that "*S. ionantha* may have been one of the parents and that *S. diplotricha* (not the one we know under this name now) and *S. tongwensis* were being grown in Germany." Although *S. tongwensis* could have been grown at the time he was investigating, it had not been discovered until 1940 by Greenway. It was about this time that Mrs. William duPont of Wilmington, Delaware, purchased seeds from Sutton's. One of her seedlings had outstandingly heavy foliage. Through hybridizing and selection she developed the duPont strain. Many more hybridizers had started producing plants — the African violet "fever" had begun!

Other lesser known facts which I found interesting are:

1. The *Saintpaulia* usually has two or three staminodes (small, undeveloped stamens) but abnormally two or all of them are fertile. In 1912 Dümmer wrote a paper on abnormal flowers

which had five equal corolla lobes (petals) and five fertile stamens. Even a drawing of the parts of *S. ionantha* accompanying Wendland's botanical description in 1893 showed one blossom with six petals! Our African violet had these tendencies from the beginning.

2. In 1895 Rodrigas wished to unite the *Saintpaulia* with *Petrocosmea*, but without success. This is why you may see *Petrocosmea ionantha* shown as a synonym for *S. ionantha*.

3. *S. inconspicua* was originally marked as *Didymocarpus* in the herbarium, but the plant is a true *Saintpaulia*. (This species can no longer be found in cultivation.)

4. One plant was erroneously placed into the genus *Saintpaulia*. This was *S. alba* Bruce (1933). This plant was excluded by Burtt who placed it in its proper classification as *Linnaeopsis alba* in 1947.

5. In his studies, Burtt detailed the differences found in *Petrocosmea*, *Didymocarpus* and *Linnaeopsis*. He also mentioned *Boea* and the Himalayan *Platystemma* as having flowers appearing to be similar to the *Saintpaulia*.

6. When only three species had been identified, K. Fitch subdivided the genus into two sections. *Eusaintpaulia* included the two rosulate species, *S. ionantha* and *S. pusilla*; the caulescent one, showing distinct internodes, *S. goetzeana*, was placed into a separate section named *Archisaintpaulia*. These subdivisions were abandoned by Burtt in 1958.

Each of the species has a "range of variation." The plant formerly named *S. amaniensis* was found by Burtt to be within such range and it was declared to be a synonym of *S. magungensis*. As new plants are found, help is frequently needed with identification. Each of the plants are numbered, dated, and identified, if possible; any others would remain unnamed in the herbarium until positive identification could be made. Burtt recognized that, as knowledge of these plants increased, plants now named might need to be combined or new discoveries might still be found. He cautioned that young plants might not display their characteristic habits until they were more mature. In addition, the leaf hairs or marginal teeth may appear more or less strongly developed when plants are young. He also warned that shades in

color of blossom can vary and cultural conditions can affect the size of the blossom.

The species plants can really make a statement in your home. There are now 20 named species and four others have been given varietal rank within those species. Two others, 'House of Amani' and 'Sigi Falls,' have not yet been identified as separate species. It is interesting to compare "from-the-wild" traits with those of the newer cultivars — something like a guess-

ing game. Try placing them in different locations, in natural light and under fluorescents. Better yet, grow two or three plants of the same species under different conditions to see the results. This genus has been found only in Eastern Africa and their native habitat is slowly being destroyed. In 1986 these plants appeared on an international list as one of the ten most endangered. Let us all help to preserve them in cultivation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear AVM Editor,

All over the United States, landfill sites are full to capacity and will be closing within a few years. Many are already closed.

Here in Illinois, as of July 1, we can no longer put out yard waste (leaves, grass and branches) for the trash collector. Many towns are going into the very costly recycling programs and asking residents to start composting.

By now, you're probably wondering what on earth this has to do with African violets. It has a lot to do with them, when clubs have their sales.

Paper grocery bags and plastic bags are used when plants are sold. These products take many, many years to break down in the garbage dumps and it's creating part of the landfill problem.

There is a new plastic bag which is photodegradable (breaks down in sunlight) being sold by the Mobil Chemical Co., which meets FDA requirements, is recyclable, non-toxic when incinerated, causes no ground water contamination and is landfill safe.

At this point, I do not know how expensive the bags are, but you can get more information by calling 1-800-476-4300.

Promote African violets and help save the environment.

Barbara Goodsell
429 Cherry Lane
Glenview, IL 60025

Dear AVM Editor,

A trying other methods of controlling cyclamen mites, I tried one of my own concoctions. I covered the crowns of the infected plants with diatomaceous, an organic insecticide made of the crushed shells of microscopic plankto, which works not by poisoning insects or mites but by piercing their bodies, causing them to dry out and die.

The results are amazing. Soon new growth after new growth appears.

Don't wash the diatomaceous earth out of the plants.

You can also mix with potting soil. It works. Another way is to put on top of your soil. It is as fine as face powder and will help with thrips and white flys — totally non-toxic and totally organic.

Rose Akins
1800 Mesa Verde
Farmington, NM 87401

(Editor's Note: Quite a few questions have been raised about this product. I would like to hear from anyone using it and the results they have had.)

Send to the Beaumont Office
for a list of available back issues
of the AVM.

Propagation

Pauline Bartholomew

There are several methods of propagation that can be used to reproduce African violets—seeds, leaf cuttings, and suckers. Some hobbyists like to grow a few of the species, but the plants most of us grow are exclusively hybrids. The species reproduce true from seed, but hybrids can only be reproduced vegetatively. The cross breeding of two varieties is a fascinating field, but it is not one to explore for those with limited space.

As many as 150 seeds may germinate from one seed pod. Each plantlet must be grown to flowering size in order to determine its potential. Otherwise, the great new blossom color of the decade may be missed! And, out of those 150 plants, perhaps only one or two will be worth saving. It takes a lot of discipline to throw away 148 blooming plants.

Most hobbyist growers are interested in reproducing only specific hybrid varieties that will make good show plants. Thus, the two methods of propagation for this purpose are leaf cuttings and suckers. Commercial growers propagate only chimeras from suckers, but suckers provide a rapid means for amateur growers to exchange new varieties with friends.

Leaf Start Mix

One part perlite and one part vermiculite. Mix, dampen, and store in a plastic bag or pail. It keeps indefinitely.

After you have become an experienced grower, it is easy to forget how new "new" is. I once advised a novice grower to use one half perlite and one half vermiculite as a leaf start mix. The immediate question came back, "Which one do I put into the pot first — the perlite or the vermiculite?"

Standard Leaf Cuttings

Intermediate, mature leaves produce the best plantlets. Fresh, immature leaves can also be used for propagating, but avoid using old

leaves whenever possible. I have found that plantlets seem to come up sooner when I don't use a rooting powder on leaf cuttings. You just seem to end up with a potful of roots and plantlets take a long time in appearing.

1. Cut the end of the petiole diagonally with a sharp razor blade. Leave about 1-1/2" of petiole. Since plantlets develop from the cut end of the petiole, they have too great a distance to grow in order to reach the light if the petiole is too long. If the leaf is one-of-a-kind and the petiole is accidentally broken off, the base of the leaf can be cut in a "V" shape to create a new "petiole." However, the shorter the petiole, the more likely that a sport will occur.
2. Use 2-1/2" pots or 3-1/2 oz. plastic drinking cups (punch holes in the bottom). Write the plant name and the date on the pot. Fill the pot with damp mix, pack it down firmly, and water with fertilizer solution.
3. Make a hole in the mix with a pencil or similar tool. Place the petiole in the hole so that the mix is almost up to the bottom of the leaf and firm the mix around the petiole. Place the pots under lights in a community tray or individual saucers. Water from the bottom using regular fertilizer solution.

Sometimes leaves are too large to pot properly or will continue to grow after potting. In this case, cut a segment off the top of the leaf. This stops growth, and energy will go to producing plantlets.

Unless you are growing plants for sale, you will not need the 5 to 15 plantlets produced by each leaf cutting. When the plantlets start appearing, pick off all but a few of the biggest ones. This gives you one or two extras to share with friends, but you won't be taking up space growing a lot of duplicates. However, if you are growing plants to sell, you will want to produce as many plantlets as possible from each leaf. There may be different cutting and potting

techniques that increase production. Consult with experienced commercial growers.

Miniature Leaf Cuttings

There would be no point in designing special propagating containers for miniature leaves when foam-plastic egg cartons can't be improved on. They are free, readily available, space saving, and plantlets pop up in about half the time as when other methods are used.

1. Cut off the top of the egg carton and punch a hole in the bottom of each divided section of the carton. Fill the sections with leaf start mix and moisten well. Place the top section under the divided section and water from the bottom by pouring fertilizer solution into this section.
2. A plastic bag placed loosely over the cuttings speeds up the emergence of plantlets. Stick skewers or plant stakes into the center divider of the sections to keep the plastic from touching the leaf cuttings.
3. The variety name can be written on the side of the carton by each divider or small plastic name-stakes may be used. Follow the procedures given for standard leaves except that the petioles will be cut proportionately shorter.

Propagating Trailers

Of course, trailers may be propagated by leaf cuttings, but a crown cutting is the fastest method of producing a new plant. The procedure for starting a cutting is the same as for starting suckers, except a stem can be created by removing some of the lower leaves of the cutting.

Propagating Suckers

While excessive suckering can be the result of poor culture, damage, or disease, some suckering is to be expected when plants are constantly pushed to their peak of growth and flowering. Take advantage of an occasional sucker by allowing it to become large enough to propagate. The sucker should have four leaves and measure about 1-1/2" (either tall or across). Don't allow suckers to become so large that they spoil the symmetry of the parent plant.

There are advantages to propagating from

suckers. You will have a plant much sooner than by putting down a leaf, and plants propagated this way are almost certain to come true to the parent plant. In the case of chimeras, it is the only way for the hobbyist to get a true reproduction.

1. Use a Sucker Plucker (or similar tool) to remove suckers intact from the plant. Suckers that form at the base of the main stem at the soil line usually are rooted in the soil. Slip the triangular end of the tool between sucker and the main stem. Cut straight down until the sucker separates. Then loosen the roots from the soil. By leaving a few roots attached, growth will be much more rapid. Removing a sucker intact that has formed in the axil of a petiole requires some delicate surgery. One slip and a major leaf can be severed. Again using the triangular end, make partial cuts all around the base of the sucker. Cut carefully between the sucker and petiole and between the sucker and main stem until it is loose. If the sucker is small enough, it may pop out of the axil by pushing at the base of it with a pencil. To encourage root formation, brush rooting powder on the cut end of the sucker.
2. Write the plant name and the date on the pot and fill it with moist leaf start mix. Press the mix down firmly and water with fertilizer solution. Make a shallow trough in the top of the mix and lay the sucker in this indentation. Push the sucker down gently so it makes good contact with the mix but not so deeply that the center is buried.
3. Place the pot in a plastic bag, expand the bag slightly by blowing into it, twist the top shut, and secure with a wire twist. Leave the bag closed for two or three weeks. Open and loosen the top of the bag for another two weeks, then remove the bag. Be sure to water the plant during the two week open-bag period. When the plant is large enough, pot it into a 4" pot.

(To be continued.)

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Deadlines for articles, columns and coming event notices are as follows:

January issue — October 1 deadline
March issue — December 1 deadline
May issue — February 1 deadline
July issue — April 1 deadline
September issue — June 1 deadline
November issue — August 1 deadline

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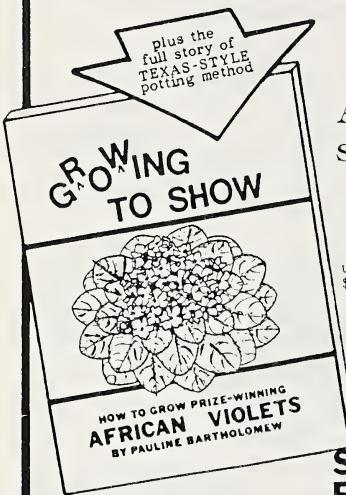
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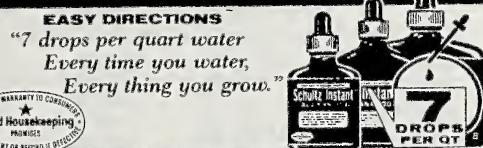
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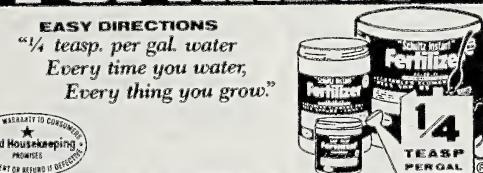
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12" Diameter - \$6.75 each

White - Green - Beige - Terra-cotta

SWIFT'S "MOIST-RITE" PLANTER

White - Green - Black

\$3.85 each - 6/18.00 - 12/32.00 - 24/54.00

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS:

Supplies - UPS \$3.25

Supplies - Parcel Post \$5.50

All other Countries - Actual Cost

Mass. residents include 5% Sales Tax

Please include STREET or ROAD, Zip Code & Phone #

Prices subject to change without notice.

PETER'S WATER SOLUBLE FERTILIZERS

Formula	Type	Size/Price
12-36-14	African Violet Special	4 oz. 12 oz. \$3.00
5-50-17	Variegated Special	1.20 3.25
15-16-17	Peat-Lite Special	1.20 2.50
20-20-20	General Purpose	4 oz. 16 oz. 2.50
15-30-15	House Plant Special	1.20 2.50
Dolomite Limestone		2 lbs./\$1.50
Charcoal	No. 4 Coarse	20 oz. 40 oz. 2.75
	No. 6 Medium	1.50 3.50
Vermiculite	No. 2 Coarse	5 qts. 16 qts. 3.50
Perlite	Coarse	1.50 4.00
Long Fibered Sphagnum Moss		8 qts./\$2.75
TROY Capillary watering mat — a full 4 feet wide		
\$2.25 per running yard — whole yard lengths		

BATEMAN'S BOUNTY 6-2-2

8 oz. - \$2.99

16 oz. - \$5.25

STURDY

4 oz. - \$2.99

8 oz. - \$5.25

PLANT DINNER

8 oz. BOUNTY,

4 oz. STURDY +

Mixer Dispenser Bottle
\$6.35

PHYSAN 20

16 oz. - \$5.95

32 oz. - \$9.95

1 gal. - 29.95

OYAMA PLANTERS

Green, Brown or White

4" - \$1.49 each

5" - \$1.99 each

5-1/2" - \$2.99 each

6" - \$3.50 each (Wh. only)

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1/2 oz. - \$1.59

1 oz. - \$2.39

2 oz. - \$3.39

4 oz. - \$5.39

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75% Soluble Powder

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PT 1300 Orthene

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Knox-Out PT 1500A

16 oz. - \$5.95

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Leona's African Violets -n- Things

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Leaves 60¢ each, our choice, labeled.
(Min. 10 leaves) Shipping - \$3.50
FREE GIFT with each order.
Please include phone number.

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* BEST OF THE NEW AND OLD *

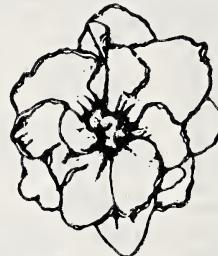
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We ship only leaves.
We will not ship outside
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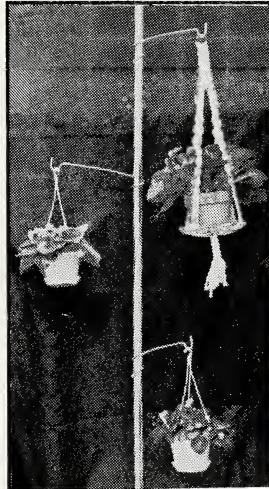
Violet Creations



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Tampa, FL 33613
813-963-7424

Cheryl Hukle
5520 Wilkins Rd.
Tampa, FL 33610
813-621-5717

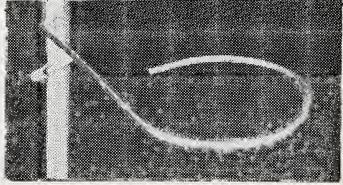
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Violet growers never have enough room for their collections. Now you can grow violets "high rise" style. Take advantage of bright windows even if you have already filled the windowsills with plants. The brass tone tension pole is spring loaded at the top; easily adjusts to ceilings between 7' 8" and 8' 2". Extension available for higher ceilings. Has plastic end caps to protect floor and ceiling. Comes with three 9" arms as shown in the photo at left. Customers find they can put 10 - 12 violets on a pole. Also great for trailers or gesneriads. Planter Pole Item #771, \$11.29 ea.

POT HOLDER RING STYLE ARM for Planter Pole, Brass Plated, 9" long. Will hold a 4" Oyama Pot or a 5" Oyama Pot. Also will hold the planter pole wicking reservoir sold below. Item #773 \$2.59 each. Squeeze the ring shut a bit to make the pot ride higher or pry it open a little to make it ride lower.



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Wide Spectrum Gro-Lux - 18", 24" or 48" - Case of 12 - \$51.88
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Potting Soil - Ultra light - 8 qt. bag
 East of Rockies - \$1.99 / Case of 12 - \$23.99 ppd.
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 Violet Food (14-12-14)
 Pre-measured - \$1.50 ea/4 for \$5.00 / 8 oz. - \$2.50
 Watermaids - beige or brown - \$1.50 ea/4 for \$5.00

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	Each	50 or more
1-1/4" rd green	10¢	8¢
1-1/4" rd terracotta	22¢	18¢
1-1/4" rd tc w/saucer	25¢	20¢
2-1/4" rd gr or wh	7¢	6¢
2-1/2" rd gr or wh, sq. - gr.	8¢	6¢
3" rd tub - gr rolled lip	10¢	8¢
3-1/2" rd tub - gr or wh rolled lip	12¢	10¢
4" rd tub - gr or wh rolled lip	14¢	12¢
4" rd hanging - gr or wh w/saucer & hanger	55¢	50¢
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16 oz. rd plastic w/lid 30¢ 24¢

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144 page book by Theodore James - \$9.95

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Send a stamp for our complete list of supplies.

Please add \$3.50 shipping per order

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15 MINIATURES & SEMIMINIATURES - 4 TRAILERS

NOW Specializing in only Miniatures, Semiminiatures and Trailers

All are heavy bloomers with regular and variegated foliage. Send stamp for descriptive list of these and many previous releases. Ready for shipping. USA only



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OUR 1990 CATALOG IS NOW AVAILABLE. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED ONE,
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NEW PRODUCTS FOR YOUR AFRICAN VIOLETS AND HOUSE PLANTS!

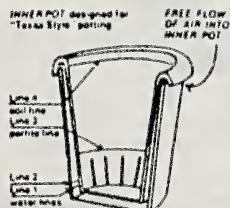
YOU MAY REFERENCE OUR AD IN THE NOVEMBER 1989 AVM

PATCHES AND POTS

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El Cajon, CA 92020
(619) 442-7037

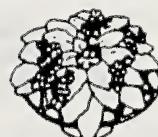
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3. Approved for shows by African Violet Society

*Give Your Violets A Lift
With
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1. Keeps leaves from getting cut on pot edges.
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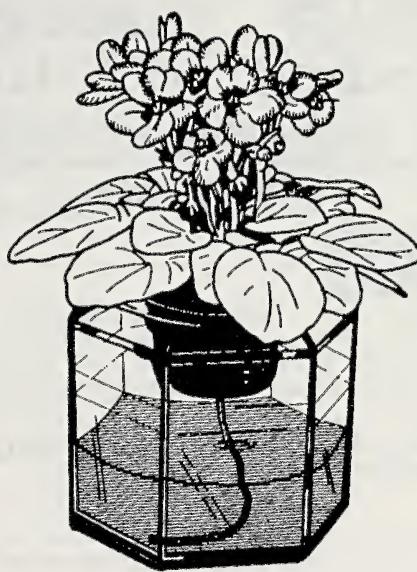
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Micro-mini & Mini Reservoirs and Pots - 3 sizes
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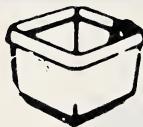
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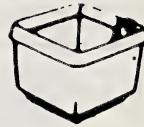


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The House of Violets

Charlyne and Ralph Reed



936-940 Garland St., SW - Dept. 590
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"MOIST-RITE" PLANTER

Circle color desired

Green White Black

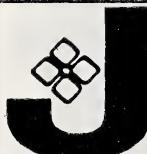
Single planter	\$ 4.25 ppd.
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ADAMS: Anice Prior, Annina, Cambridge Missie, Heritage Frolic, Little Bountiful, Pearly Princess, Pink Pealers, Shaula, Wunnerful
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LEAVES - \$1.25 PLANTS - \$3.25 SHIPPING - \$3.50

GALL: Baby Jay, Little Jayhawker, Shawnee Mission Trail, Towanyak Trail
Rob's Blue Moon, Pal Paul, Pink Satin, Picky Winky, Sailor Bill, Silver Spook, Sundae Scoop, Vanilla Pink, Whimsical
MINIMUM PLANT/LEAF ORDER - \$12.50 + \$3.50 SHIPPING

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Crimson Ember	Autumn Halo	Tomahawk	All That Jazz	Betty Jane (Volkmann)
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Hot Tomato	Denim Halo		Cajun Popcorn	Susy Q (Volkmann)
Jersey Sunset	Flash Cat		Evangeline	Big Charley (Ruby Cox)
Jillian	Gala Pink	Fantasy Sprite	Gentle Persuasion	Kaan's Fran (Ruby Cox)
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Mauve Organdy	Magic Halo	Picturesque Sport	Plenty of Pepper	Smile Time (Ruby Cox)
Midway	Mindi's Dream	Rose of Lorraine	That's Italian	Sybil (Betty Bryant)
Ming Dynasty	Partly Cloudy	Tie Dyed	Venus Butterfly	Frosted Whisper (Scott)
Moonlight Cocktail	Sassy Halo	Yuri		Night Rider (Scott)
Purr Pink			NESS	Buckboard Bounce (Wrglr)
Tiger's Son	SUNCOAST	HORTENSE PITTMAN	Cameo Pink	Texas Tuft (Wrangler)
Risen Star	Paisley Print	Antique Bliss	Calypso Gal	Dandy Mandy (Hudson)
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Ruby Dew	Circus Candy	Plum Gem	Wheezy Blue	
Ruby Shadows	Lavender Magic	Rosa Pleaser		
	Special Event	Spring Snow		

Also miniatures and semiminiatures available from Robinson (1990 & 1989 varieties), Hortense Pittman, Ness, and Rainbow. Order from list or send large SASE for complete descriptive list. SHIPPING: Most orders shipped by UPS ground unless postal shipment is requested. Basic cost is \$4.00; add \$3.00 for UPS 2nd day air. Basic shipping paid for orders over \$35.00; add \$3.00 for 2nd day air. All leaf orders shipped by UPS 2nd day air, shipping cost \$5.00. SHIPPING SEASON is May, June, September and October.

PLASTIC FLOWER POTS

Inch Size	Color	Type	Number of Pots				
			10	20	50	100	500
2-1/4	Wh or Gr	RS or SQ	1.00	1.75	4.00	6.75	27.00
2-1/2	Wh or Gr	RS or SQ	1.20	2.00	4.30	7.40	30.00
3	Wh or Gr	RS/RT/SQ	1.50	2.70	6.00	11.00	50.00
3-1/2	Wh or Gr	RT or SQ	1.75	3.10	7.30	13.00	58.00
4	Wh or Gr	RS/RT/SQ	2.10	3.70	8.30	15.50	70.00
4-1/2	Wh or Gr	RS/RT/SQ	2.35	4.20	9.25	17.00	79.00
5	Wh or Gr	RS or RT	2.75	5.10	11.75	20.75	
6	Wh or Gr	RS or RT	3.35	5.90	14.00	26.00	
6-1/2	Wh or Gr	RT only	3.90	6.90	15.75	29.00	

Larger sizes available ... please write for quotation

(COLOR: Wh=White, Gr=Green)

(TYPE: RS=Round Standard; height and top width are equal
RT=Round Tub; height is 3/4 of top width
SQ=Square; volume approximately equal to RS)

Round Tubs are often favored by African violet growers; Squares stand neatly in trays without tipping, and are often favored for succulents.

MOIST-RITE PLANTERS

We continue to sell attractively designed, double-walled planters, providing for self-watering. Colors are: light green, black or white.

Single Planter \$ 4.00

Six Planters 20.00

Twelve Planters 35.00

Twenty-four Planters 58.00



FLORACUPS

Protective sleeves for your sale plants

Pot size	Top & Depth	per 50	per 100
2-3/4"	7"x7"	\$4.00	7.00
3-1/2"	6-1/4"x6-1/4"	4.00	7.00
4"	7" x 6-3/8"	5.00	9.00



SEEDS

We continue to offer Nadeau's African Violet seeds for: #1 - standards, #2 - miniatures, #3 - variegates, & #4 - trailers.

Packets - include 100 seeds and instructions \$4.75

Kits - include 100 seeds, instructions, Jiffy-7 pellets and starter container \$5.25

See our catalog for descriptions

SEND FOR OUR FREE CATALOG

YOUR REQUEST FOR OUR FREE CATALOGUE WILL BE ANSWERED BY RETURN MAIL!

Our free catalogue lists and describes several other items such as Sinningia seeds, Oyama (Texas Style) Pots, leaf supports, pens, masks, gloves, meters, hanging baskets of all sizes, soil enriching materials, trays, books, starter greenhouses, insecticides, Floracups, & SPECIAL OFFERS.

Florida Customers Must Add 6% Sales Tax

MINIMUM ORDER \$7.50 PLUS SHIPPING

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FOR REALLY QUICK SERVICE

**the
VIOLET
HOUSE**

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1990

SHALLOW CONTAINERS

PLASTIC PAN POTS

Very shallow, about half as deep as they are across the top - bottom holes only. (Recommended in AVSM articles and convention presentations)

Inch Size	Color	10	20	50	100	500
5	Wh or Gr	3.00	5.75	13.50	24.00	100.00
6	Wh or Gr	3.90	7.50	17.00	32.00	140.00
6-1/2	Wh or Gr	4.15	8.00	18.50	35.00	
8	Wh or Gr	6.25	11.50	27.00	52.00	
10	Wh or Gr	9.75	18.25	43.50	83.00	

See our catalog for prices of SNAP-ON SAUCERS to fit PANS

PLASTIC WATER RESERVOIRS

Volume	Height	20	50	100	500
8 oz	1-3/4"	7.00	16.00	26.50	115.00
16 oz	3"	7.00	16.00	26.50	115.00
32 oz	3"	11.00	24.00	45.00	165.00

We do not supply wicks

5" pans fit into tops of 8 & 16 oz reservoirs;
Reservoirs without lids are half price.



PLANT CARE ITEMS

*PLEASE NOTE:

Due to the bulk of soil, perlite, and vermiculite, we will ship ONLY 8 gallons of any one or combination of these (*) marked items with each shipping charge

*Violet House Soil-less Mix (pH bal.)	2 gal.	\$3.00
*Nadeau Soil-less Mix (for seedlings)	2 gal.	3.00
Canadian Peat (milled)	2 gal.	2.50
*Perlite (allows drainage & aeration)	1 gal.	1.50
*Vermiculite (helps hold soil moisture)	1 gal.	1.50
Dolomite Lime (raises alkalinity)	1 lb.	1.30
Charcoal (keeps moist soil sweet)	12 oz.	1.50
Sphagnum Moss (long fiber)	1/4 cubic ft.	2.75
Fish Emulsion (promotes greening/roots)	10 oz.	1.75
Superthrive (tiny dose helps flourishing)	1 oz.	2.25
	2 oz.	3.30
	4 oz.	5.20
House Plant Insect Spray (non-aerosol)	10 fl. oz.	1.75

PETER'S AFRICAN VIOLET FERTILIZERS

African Violet Special (12-36-14)	12 oz.	\$3.00
Variegated Special (5-50-17)	12 oz.	3.25
General Purpose (20-20-20)	16 oz.	2.50

CAPILLARY MATTING (Vatex)

Water plants by means of capillary action. Vatex is a dark matting topped by a black sheet of plastic which is perforated with many tiny holes. It minimizes algae growth, is washable and tough.

4 feet wide - can be cut with scissors - \$.40 / square foot.
(eg: 4 feet x 2 feet = 8 sq. ft. ... \$3.20)

SHIPPING CHARGES

48 States (United Parcel Service)	.....	\$3.25
C. O. D. by U.P.S.	.....	add 3.30
Alaska and Hawaii (U.S. Postal Service)	.....	5.50
All other areas charged actual cost		

THE 1990 SHIPPING SEASON AT TINARI'S IS NOW IN FULL SWING.

****TIME TO ORDER FOR CHOICE CULTIVARS**

****STURDY STOCK READY TO SHIP**

****PROMPT UPS DELIVERY TO YOUR DOOR**

SELECT FROM THESE COLORFUL CULTIVARS AT \$2.95 each ...

CORAL CLOUD, CORAL GLOW, CORAL KISS, CORAL STAR, CRYSTAL PLUM, FANTASY FORTY, FANTASY FROLIC, FANTASY JEWEL, FANTASY SUNSET, FICKLE FLIRT, FIREWALKER and MAJESTIC.

KERMIT ... an unusual greenish type blossom, light green quilted serrated foliage ... \$3.95 each

OPTIMARAS AT \$2.95 each ...

ALABAMA, ARKANSAS, BARBADOS, BETTY, COLUMBUS, DECENNIE, GEORGIA, GISELA, HARLEQUIN, INDIANA, IRENE, LOUISIANA, MAUI, MOLOKAI, NORTH CAROLINA, OHIO, SUSI, VANESSA. (Please state second choice.)

OUR FINEST SELECTION, NOW \$1.95 each ...

A LA LA, AMIGO, ANGEL LACE, ANNE'S FAVORITE, ANNE'S FAVORITE SPORT, AZURE BLUE, BELLISSIMA, BILLY PENN, BLUE HERON, BRANDYWINE, CAMELOT PINK, CORAL MOON, CORALETTE, DARK SENSATION, DAZZLER, FANTASY MIST, FESTIVAL, FIREBIRD, FRECKLED STAR, GENESSEE SILHOUETTE, GRAND DUCHESS, MARY ALICE, MORNING THUNDER, MS. PHILADELPHIA, ORCHID ORBIT, PENNSYLVANIA PURPLE, PINK CAMEO, PINK FAWN, PINK HILL, PINK VERONA, PINK WIZ, RED SARONG, REDDY, SNOWKIST HAVEN, STAR WARS, TIPT, VALLEY PURPLE, VULCAN QUEEN, WHITE CAMEO, WHITE DISCO, WHITE VERONA, WHITE WISTERIA, WINO, WISTERIA, WONDERLAND.

VARIEGATED VARIETIES AT A NEW POPULAR PRICE OF \$1.95 each ...

BLUE ZEPHYR, CELESTE, CHEROKEE FIRE, GORGEOUS, LILIAN JARRETT, NANCY REAGAN, TIGER, TOMMIE LOU.

MINIATURE & SEMIMINIATURE AT \$1.95 each ...

BABY DEAR, BRIGHT EYES, CORAL KITTY, DANCING DOLL, KNEE HIGH, LAST SNOW, LITTLE PRO, MAGIC BLUE, MIDGET BON BON, MINI BLUE, PINK-N-INK, SMALL CHANGE, TOYLAND, WEE LASS.

DIZZY LIZZY ... \$2.95, FANTASY TOYLAND ... \$2.95, LOVEBUG ... \$2.95
PARTY LACE ... \$2.95, SNUGGLES CLOWN ... \$2.95.

THE FASCINATING MICROMINIS AT \$2.95 each ...

LITTLE AMETHYST, LITTLE APATITE, LITTLE BLUE TOPAZ, LITTLE CRYSTAL, LITTLE DIAMOND, LITTLE KUNZITE, LITTLE MOONSTONE, LITTLE OPAL, LITTLE PEARL, LITTLE ROSE QUARTZ, LITTLE RUBY, LITTLE SAPPHIRE, LITTLE VIOLET SAPPHIRE (please state 2nd choice).

TRAILER TYPES AT \$1.95 each ...

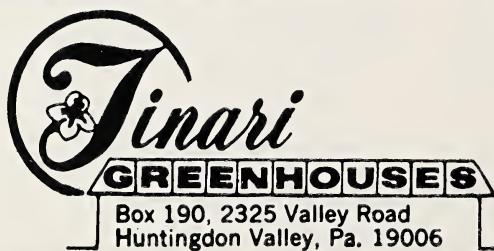
CRAFTY FARMER, ROYAL BLUE TRAILER, SKY TRAILER, SWEETHEART TRAILER.

SEMIMINIATURE TRAILERS AT \$1.95 each ...

BLUE BELLA, FALLING SNOW, FANCY TRAIL, NANCY HAYES, PIXIE BLUE, ROSINA.

ORDER DIRECT FROM THIS AD OR SEND FOR 1990 COLOR CATALOG - 50¢, listing Floracarts, plant stands, handmade colorful ceramic pots from standard to micromini, Dandy Pots, books, pots and many other accessories.

PACKING AND POSTAL COSTS: Please add \$3.95 per shipment for packing and postage. West of MS \$4.50. CA and all customers west of MS are served best by UPS 2nd Day Air. Please include an additional 35¢ per plant over postage stated for this service.



DEPT AV
COMMERCIAL MEMBER
AVS OF AMERICA, INC.

SB
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Bot.

African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 43 Number 4 July · August 1990

Strictly Business — Your Business

INFORMATION FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY TO ENSURE GOOD SERVICE. IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM, SEND EACH ITEM TO THE CORRECT PERSON. ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

MEMBERSHIP

AVSA Membership: Send check payable to AVSA for new or renewable membership to AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Life - \$175; Commercial USA - \$25, Commercial International - \$27; Individual - \$15.00, USA only. All other countries \$17.00. Remit in U.S. Dollars with draft or check on a New York, USA Bank. See Membership Application on page 1.

AFFILIATES: Chapter - \$15.00; Council, State or Region - \$30. Please complete the form received with your renewal notice and return to AVSA office with affiliate dues check.

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION: Send ideas, offers to help, requests for assistance to Anne Tinari, 2325 Valley Rd., Box 190, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

AFFILIATES: For information on shows, awards, how to organize a chapter or membership questions, write Irene Merrell, W 283 Hillendale Dr., Oconomowoc, WI 53066.

AVSA OFFICE: Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704, 409-839-4725. Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

BEST VARIETIES: HONOR ROLL COMPILER: Rita Hilton, 2295 W. Helen Circle, Bartow, FL 33830.

BINDERS FOR AVMs: \$10.75 each or 2 for \$20

SLIP CASE BOXES FOR AVMs: \$8.50 each or 2 for \$16.

BOOSTER FUND: Send contributions to Ruth Warren, P. O. Box 3664, Fall River, MA 02722.

BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND: Send contributions (club or individual) to Marlene Buck, P. O. Box 38, Oreland, PA 19075.

BUILDING FUND: Send contributions to Nell-Sue Tyson, 2030 E. Amherst Ave., Denver, CO 80210.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: Mr. David Butram, P. O. Box 193, Independence, MO 64051.

COMMERCIAL SALES & EXHIBITS: For information on convention entries or sales room, contact J. R. Pittman, 12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233.

CONVENTION

AWARDS: Nov. issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Esther Wells, 948 Fair Oaks Court, Liberty, MO 64068 by Aug. 15.

FUTURE CONVENTION DATES: Santa Clara, CA, April 23-28, 1991; Columbus, OH, April 22-26, 1992.

PROGRAM: Nov. issue. Send special requests for workshop programs; suggest names of interesting speakers to Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Leeward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

If interested in sponsoring a national convention in your area, contact Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Leeward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

CULTURE FOLDERS: ALL folders are \$5.00 per 100 (postage included in cost). Any Affiliate or Commercial who recruits 6 or more members per year will receive \$1.00 rebate for each new member. Club or Commercial name & address must be stamped or written in blank space on front of folder.

HANDBOOK FOR AFRICAN VIOLET GROWERS, EXHIBITORS AND JUDGES: Printing of revised edition now in progress. Completion expected July 1990. Do not prepay orders; members ordering will be billed for new price.

JUDGES DUPLICATE CARD: Send self-addressed stamped envelope to Bill Foster, 3610 Gray Dr., Mesquite, TX 75150.

JUDGING SCHOOL: For blanks to register a judging school, send request to Mrs. Stanley E. Skelton, 3910 Larchwood Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041.

LIBRARY: Order AVSA slide programs and packets from AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. List in July issue. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate, write Mr. L. T. Ozio, Jr., 1009 Ditch Avenue, Morgan City, LA 70380.

MAGAZINE: Copyrighted 1990, African Violet Society of America, Inc., all rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. All articles are property of AVSA and must not be reprinted without editor's permission.

EDITOR: Jane Birge, P. O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704, Office, 409-835-6008.

ARTICLES by Members & Columnists: Send to Editor.

COMING EVENT NOTICES: Send to Editor.

DEADLINES - Articles & Notices: Jan. issue - Oct. 1; Mar. issue - Dec. 1; May issue - Feb. 1; July issue - Apr. 1; Sept. issue - June 1; Nov. issue - Aug. 1.

ADVERTISING MANAGER: For advertising rates and copy information write: Mrs. Meredith Hall, 922 East 14th Street, Houston, TX 77009, 713-869-0102.

DEADLINES - ADS: Jan. issue - Nov. 1; Mar. issue - Jan. 1; May issue - Mar. 1; July issue - May 1; Sept. issue - July 1; Nov. issue - Sept. 1. ONLY currently paid Commercial Members may advertise.

AFFILIATE 'APPENINGS: Send to Lyndall Owens, P. O. Box 288, Beaumont, TX 77704.

BACK ISSUES: Complete your set now. Request price list of available issues from Beaumont office.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Send new address at least 30 days before it is to take effect, along with old address, to AVSA office in Beaumont.

FAILURE TO RECEIVE: Notify AVSA office in Beaumont.

QUESTION BOX: Jim Smith, 1126 Ferry Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14301.

MASTER VARIETY LIST: Number 4 (1983) \$3.00 postpaid. A must for judges, exhibitors, serious growers. Describes all varieties registered to July, 1983 - all recognized species, and non-registered cultivars introduced from June, 1976 to July, 1983. Order from Beaumont office.

MVL SUPPLEMENTS: will be published in the AVM. Send any correction and/or description of new cultivars with hybridizer's name to Master Variety List Chairman. Back supplements (1984 to 1989) available from AVSA Office for \$1.50 each.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS: Sent to Associate Members and New Members, only. Members renewing, receive card on white protective cover of AVM.

MINIATURE & SEMIMINIATURE VARIETY LIST: Available at AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Price, \$4.00 postpaid.

SUPPLEMENTS FOR MINI LIST: Send Self-addressed stamped envelope to Beaumont office.

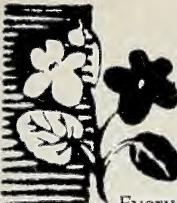
OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE: AVSA Secretary, Mrs. Janet T. Riener, 392 Pennington-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534.

PLANT REGISTRATION: Marilyn Goldstein, 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

RESEARCH: Send suggested projects for scientific research, or names of interested, qualified potential research personnel to Frank Tinari, 2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

SHOW ENTRY TAGS: 100 - \$4.75 postpaid. Order from the AVSA Office.

AVSA EMBLEMS, WATCHES AND TOTE BAGS: Available from AVSA Office. Look for ad page with ordering information and prices in this magazine.



African Violet

THEONIAN MAGAZINE

AUG 09 1990

Vol. 43 Number 4

July/August 1990

Every attempt is made to keep articles technically correct. Since the growing of fine African violets can be achieved in many ways, the methods and opinions expressed by writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of AVSA.

ON THE COVER — *Coralette* — a Granger Gardens hybrid, grown and shown by Mrs. Royce Schafer of Davenport, Iowa at the 1989 AVSA Convention in Kansas City, MO.

(Cover photo by E. A. Johnson, Dallas, TX)

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

African Violet Society of America, Inc.
P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704

Membership runs one year from date paid and includes 6 issues of the African Violet Magazine. Check membership desired.

- Individual Membership USA (\$15.00)
 Associate Member USA (\$6.75-No magazine)
 International Membership (\$17.00)
 International Associate (\$7.75-No magazine)
 Commercial USA (\$25.00) Int'l. (\$27.00)
 Affiliated Chapter USA (\$15.00) Int'l. (\$17.00)
 Affiliated State, Regional and Council (\$30.00)
 Life (\$175.00) Library (\$15.00)
 Dues Enclosed

Make checks payable to AVSA, Inc. INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS:
please remit in US\$ with a draft or check on a New York, USA bank.

Date _____
(Please type or print)

Name _____

Address _____

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New Member Renewal



*The Official Publication of the
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6415 Wilcox Ct., Alexandria, VA 22310

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F32030 P.O. Box 44209, Cincinnati, OH 45244

MRS. J. R. PITTMAN, 2nd Vice President
12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233

L. T. OZIO, Jr., 3rd Vice President
1009 Ditch Ave., Morgan City, LA 70380
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392 Penn-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534
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9 Cobblestone Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

MRS. FRED YOUNG

6109 Shadow Mountain Dr., Austin, TX 78731

EDITOR EMERITUS

MRS. GRACE FOOTE

211 Allien Place, Port Arthur, TX 77642

STAFF

JANE BIRGE, Editor

P.O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704

MRS. MEREDITH HALL, Adv. Mgr.
922 East 14th St., Houston, TX 77009

NANCY LAWRENCE, Office Manager
P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704

JANE REXILIUS, Publications Chairman
5634 Yarwell, Houston, TX 77096

COLUMNISTS

David Buttram, Emilie Savage, Florence Naylor,
Ruth Warren, Bill Foster, Jim Smith, Nancy Lawrence,
Georgene Albrecht, L. T. Ozio, Jr., Marlene Buck,
Bill Johnson, Nell-Sue Tyson, Lyndall Owens, Marilyn Goldstein
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TALLY TIME COMPILER:
Anna Jean Landgren, 810 Ingleside Place, Evanston, IL 60201

PUBLISHER: Publishing Today, P. O. Box 1401,
Beaumont, TX 77704

ADVERTISER'S INDEX

Trouble with an advertiser?

Write your AV Advertising Manager giving complete details.

While AVSA cannot assume responsibility for advertisers, we try to help resolve the problem.

If an advertiser is found irresponsible, they will be refused future ads.

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The African Violet Magazine (ISSN 0002-0265) is published six (6) times a year: January, March, May, July, September, November.

Second class postage is paid by the African Violet Society of America, Inc., a nonprofit organization, at 2363 McFaddin, Beaumont, TX 77702 and at additional mailing offices. Subscription \$15.00 per year which is included in membership dues.

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POSTMASTER: Please send change of address form 3579 to AVSA, Inc., P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704.

From the President's Desk



Dear AVSA Members,

As I begin my second term as your president, I would like to thank you for all of the support that you gave me during the last term. Your letters of suggestions and comments showed me that we have many concerned members. I hope you will continue to write when you have a suggestion, or you are displeased, or you have a comment. Because of the communication I received from so many of you last term, I have selected as my theme for this year, "Working Together as One."

This issue will carry all of the Boston convention happenings. It was a great convention — one of the best. Thank you, Bay State.

Edward Bradford has resigned as our "Not For Beginners Only" columnist. We will miss you, Edward. Columnists for the new "Beginners Column," will be Joyce and Kent Stork. We are looking forward to working with them and welcome them as regular columnists to the AVM.

Our Shows and Judges Chairman, Emilie Savage, has retired. It seems she wants to do some traveling with her husband, Jim, who retired a few years back. Emilie, we thank you for the many years you have devoted to being Chairman of Shows and Judges, and wish you the best in the future.

Bill Foster who was our Affiliate Chairman will be the new Shows and Judges Chairman. Our new Affiliate Chairman will be Irene Merrell, who was Cumulative Index Chairman. Bob Green is the new Cumulative Index Chairman. One other resignation was received at convention from our Preconvention Coordinator, Dottie Wilson; no appointment for this position has been made to date. Our best to you, Dottie.

A special committee, the International Committee, was formed to investigate international overtures precipitated by correspondence from the U.S.S.R. Chairman of this committee will be L. T. Ozio, Jr.

The new #5 Master Variety List, published by AVSA and considered the authorized reference tool for judges, exhibitors and growers, will be available for fall shows. In response to your wishes, it will be loose leaf, AVM size, low cost, and will integrate miniature and semiminiature cultivars. In the future we anticipate only two or three supplements before a new "all-inclusive" volume is published again. A separate Miniature and Semiminiature List will still be available. The MVL will also be available on diskettes for IBM and Macintosh users.

New items for sale at the office — big hits at the Boston convention — were quartz watches with the AVSA logo on the face. They come in two sizes, large face and small face, with brown leather straps. This would make an ideal gift for an outgoing president. Another new item that is available is a tote bag with the AVSA logo on both sides. (See our ad elsewhere in this issue.)

Due to the increase in the cost of publishing the AVM, it was necessary for the Board of Directors to vote an increase in dues. Dues for individual members will be \$15.00 per year; affiliate members dues will be \$15.00 per year, and an application fee of \$5.00 will be charged when ordering rosettes. International members and international affiliate members will be \$17.00 per year. There will be no increase of dues for life memberships, commercial

memberships, or associate memberships.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many affiliates who have sent me their newsletters and magazines this past year. I have enjoyed reading the happenings that go on in your local areas, and the articles. Thanks.

A welcome to the new directors who were elected and installed at the Boston convention. They are: Deborah S. Griffith, Colorado, William Lyons, Pennsylvania, Ann Miller, Ohio, Sue Ramser, Texas, Ralph Robinson, New York and Joyce Stork, Nebraska. A special thank you goes to our retiring directors: Ralph Breden, California, Ken Froboese, Texas, Eva Harp, North Carolina, Ruth Warren, Massachusetts, and Esther Wells, Missouri. It's been a pleasure working with you.

It is not too early to start thinking about the Santa Clara convention — why not start now and make plans to be there?

When traveling this summer remember to visit our commercials; but please call ahead so you won't be disappointed if they are not in.

We have just learned of the death of Bill Johnson, our, "Ask Your Hybridizer," columnist. We are saddened at his passing and our deepest sympathy goes to his wife, Jimmie, and his family. He will be missed.

Mary C. Roland

Newsline: AVSA Beaumont Office

Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager

DUES INCREASE - EFFECTIVE JULY1, 1990

Due to the ever-rising cost of publishing the African Violet Magazine, AVSA has found it necessary to increase dues as follows:

U.S.A. Individual	\$15.00
U.S.A. Affiliated Club	15.00
U.S.A. Library	15.00
International Individual	17.00
International Affiliated Club	17.00
International Library	17.00

Dues for the other categories of membership: Commercial, Life and Associate memberships remain the same with NO INCREASE.

NEW ITEMS FOR SALE:

See page 55 for a picture and description of our new AVSA watches and tote bags. These items were introduced at the Boston Convention and were extremely popular. Both items

have the AVSA logo. We believe you will be very proud to wear the watch or carry the bag or give them as gifts. Besides that, they help to promote AVSA; so, order today.

It is with great sadness that I end this column with a farewell to our friend Bill Johnson. Over the years, our entire staff had come to respect and to love Bill.

It was a rare month to go by without our asking Bill for assistance in answering questions from our members on growing African violets. He was never too busy to sit down and answer member's letters in great detail and then to send us copies of his letters.

We will miss him because we could always count on his help; but most of all we will miss his ever present positive attitude and his great love for life and his work. He touched all of our lives and we are grateful for having known him.

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

To: _____
(name)

From: _____
(name)

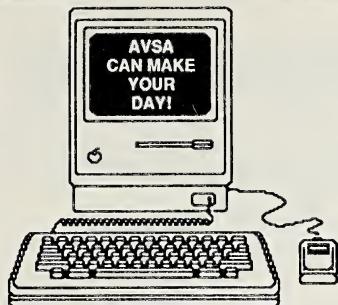
Address: _____
(street)

Address: _____
(street)

(city, state, zip)

(city, state, zip)

Mail this form to: AVSA, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704



Jane's Journal

Jane Birge, Editor

Boston was a lot of fun and the Bay State people were great. I hope they are all getting their well-deserved rest now as we all set our aim for Santa Clara, California in 1991. Information on the "Golden State" has been reaching my desk for some time now and just by their organization, I can predict an exciting convention to come.

One final word on the Boston convention has to do with Ingrid Lindskog of Umeå, Sweden. We want to thank Ingrid for wonderful little Swedish flag that we now have on display at the African Violet Society office in Beaumont. Wouldn't it be great to have flags representing all of the countries where we have members? I'll report if I receive any. Are you listening out there in the violet world?

Ingrid is a very talented woman who pointed out to me that she did the illustrations for an article, "Bustle-Leaved Violets" by Sue Haffner in the May/June 1989 issue of the AVM.

Houseplant Forum, the houseplant lover's magazine, has come a long way since it began three years ago in Canada as a 14-page newsletter. Now a full-fledged magazine, the most recent development in its evolution is the opening of a new U.S. location.

Published by award-winning garden writer, Larry Hodgson, *Houseplant Forum* is a bi-monthly magazine designed for serious hobby growers and covers a wide variety of subjects: African violets and gesneriads, cactus and succulents, orchids, bonsai, foliage plants, hydroculture, etc. Potential subscribers may obtain a sample issue for only \$2.00.

For more information, please write Horti-Com Inc., P. O. Box 128, Radisson, WI 54867-0128 or contact (418) 681-4986.

Well, I better get a Canadian flag after that kind of plug — how about it Larry?

As reported elsewhere in this magazine, Bill Johnson, our "Ask Your Hybridizer!" columnist died May 14. Bill started writing the hybridizing column back in 1985. His column ranked consistently in the top bracket for popularity, any time an opinion poll was taken. The goal he set for himself and others in that first column was to "exchange information and become a catalyst for even better African violets." He did this, time and time again.

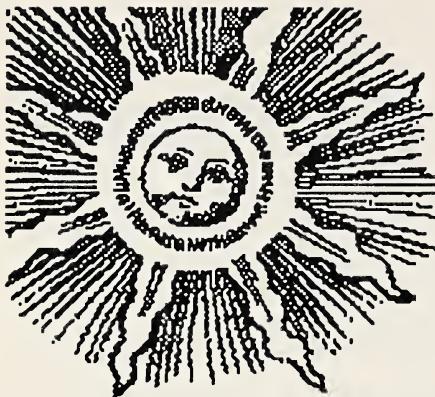
While working for Nortex Greenhouses in Texas, he hybridized the "Haven" series of violets, including, Petticoat Haven, Daydream Haven, Friendship Haven and Snowkissed Haven. He and his wife Jimmie moved to Elyria, OH where he was working for Green Circle Growers, Inc., of Oberlin, and was planning to release his new cultivars under the series name, Ultraviolet. In February of this year, Bill contacted me about the agreement Green Circle Growers had worked out with Nolan Blansit in regards to the yellow African violet.

Bill was the best columnist I had in getting his copy to me on time, and, in fact, he was always a column or two ahead of himself (an editor's dream). Thus, his final contribution to this magazine is included in this issue.

His contributions to the world of African violets will be with us for a long, long time. Thirteen of his "Ultraviolet" are now in production and will be released soon.

He was a fine columnist, a fine hybridizer, a fine correspondent, a fine man, and best of all he was a good friend.

I am very proud to have known him.



Boyce Edens Research Fund

Marlene Buck

P. O. Box 38
Oreland, PA 19075

*Enjoy your summer one and all,
Please send a check for research ... before fall!*

Donations received from January 20, 1990
through March 28, 1990.

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Alexandria AVS, LA	10.00
Please Note: In the January/February 1990 Boyce Eden Report, the Town and Country AVC was listed as being in Minot, NC. It should have read — ND (North Dakota).	

AVSA Booster Fund

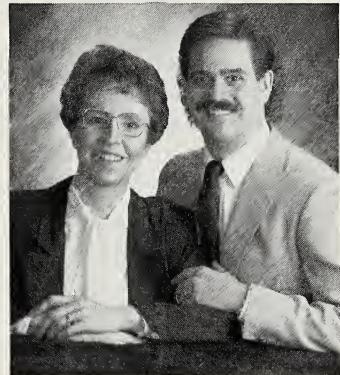
*Ruth Warren
P. O. Box 3664
Fall River, MA 02722*

Your willingness to help the AVSA Booster Fund, which is presently trying to raise monies for a new computer for our national office, is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your consideration.

"Happiness Is" AVS, Longmont, CO	\$10.00
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in lieu of judges expenses	20.00
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BEGINNERS COLUMN

*Kent and Joyce Stork
P. O. Box 398
Arlington, NE 68002*



HOW TO USE GOOD ADVICE

Finding good advice when growing your first African violets can be tough. The African Violet Magazine is a great source of information, but sometimes the advice here may not work in certain situations. Why is that? It is because the advice is often related to a specific region and climate. Many experienced violet growers have moved into new areas only to find they "can't grow African violets there!" We want to consider some of the factors involved in climate as it relates to violet culture.

LIGHT AND LATITUDE

Most beginners use windows as their source of light. But this light varies a great deal according to the season, as well as the grower's distance from the equator.

In Nebraska, which sits in the very center of the United States, we recommend that the grower place the violet within 12 inches of an east window. The light will be bright there, and the temperature will rarely climb above 85 degrees (Fahrenheit). At that point heat damage will generally begin to occur. Northern windows are often too dim, and western and southern windows are often too hot, particularly late spring through early fall.

For members living in the southern states, and especially for those international members living nearer the equator, the temperature may often climb above 85 degrees at any window. The solution then is to find the brightest location that also provides some relief from the heat. Placing the plant directly in the window

does not usually work well there. Some of the Central American growers who are at higher altitudes tell us that they can successfully grow violets out of doors in the shade.

Canadians and Alaskans do not have to contend with the heat, but the amount and intensity of daylight is reduced. Many of the northern growers have to resort to artificial light to bring the plants into bloom during winter months.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

The average temperature in the grower's region will have an effect on where the plants may be placed for light, but it also affects the choice of plants in a collection and the amount of artificial heat or air-conditioning needed.

Some varieties of African violets react quite differently to cooler or hotter climates. Southern growers have plants grow more rapidly but with less intense color in the blossom, and they often have trouble "holding" a Geneva (white) edge. Northern growers may have beautiful deep rich colors and strong edges, but find that their plants grow more slowly.

This temperature difference may also produce plants that have a softer growth in warm climates or a hard crispness in colder areas. The softer growth will have longer leaf stems (petioles) and longer blossom stems (peduncles). The plants grown at temperatures below 70 degrees will be just the opposite, with tightly overlapping leaves, and blossoms that may grow under the foliage.

Variegated plants are notorious for reacting differently to climatic variations. The leaves of many variegates will not display their characteristic white markings in warm climates. In very cold climates, the leaves may become so white that there is insufficient chlorophyll for the plants to continue growing or blooming.

The climate also affects the type of mechanical cooling or heating devices available to the grower. In Nebraska with our hot summers and cold winters we must have central air cooling and heating systems. At any time during the year, we can warm or cool our shop to 72 degrees. In the winter we often warm the building in the morning, and then cool it in the afternoon when the fluorescent lights begin to produce too much heat.

In southern regions, people are more concerned with cooling their homes, and so they often do not build in a powerful heating system. A sudden and surprising drop in temperature can spell disaster for violet growers. The heat pump systems usually available in homes to take the chill off of a room may not keep up with a severe temperature drop. Greenhouse growers in these areas are especially vulnerable.

Northern growers have the opposite problem; they often do not have air conditioners, or they may use window units which are stored through the winter months. A sudden spring heat wave can ruin the blossom count on show plants for these growers, if the units have not been installed for the season.

HUMIDITY FACTORS

African violets enjoy fairly high humidity levels. The plant blossom stems are especially vulnerable to air that is too dry. This results in tiny buds drying out as they are first forming, which leads to plants that never bloom.

In dry areas, especially desert regions, it is very important to use a system of watering which adds moisture to the air and provides a constant source of water. Arizona growers have to rely on wicking and capillary matting to water their plants.

In very damp areas, the humidity may be well above the 60% recommended for violets. In this situation, plants may not transpire water into the air and thus are unable to draw up nutrients

into their root system. The potential problems with powdery mildew are also greatly increased with high humidity especially if there is not good air circulation.

Humidity also affects the propagation of African violets by leaf cuttings. Tiny plantlets are quite vulnerable to dry air. In dry climates it is wise to provide a sealed environment around the "expectant" leaf. A terrarium, a sealed plastic bag, or clear sweater boxes all work well for this. This, of course, is not a necessary step in very humid climates.

WATER

It would seem that water is water is water. But in fact the water supplies vary a great deal in pH levels, in salt content, and in levels of other additives.

Violets tend to thrive best at a pH level of 6.8. Water that is below 6.8 will be acidic, and growers in regions with acid water supplies will probably need to compensate by adding dolomite lime to the soil mix. If growers in regions with alkaline water supplies use soil mixes with dolomite lime, they will compound their high pH problems. In some cases it may be necessary for these growers to add acids to their soils, although the natural breakdown of peat moss will often produce enough acid to balance the pH.

Some areas have water supplies that are naturally "soft." The water contains varying amounts of salts which can build up in the soil and in plant tissues. This is potentially quite toxic to the plant.

Many city water systems add chlorine as well as other chemicals. Generally these materials have not caused serious problems. Chlorine should be removed by letting water stand for a few hours. The chlorine gas will evaporate and the water can then be used on plants.

OTHER PROBLEMS

Other regional factors can also affect the way one is able to use violet-growing advice. Specific commercial soil mixes are often not consistently available in all areas of the country, so it may be impossible for a New York grower to use a soil recipe recommended by a California grower.

The cost of utilities can also greatly influence the decision to use heating or cooling. Certain communities have far more expensive electricity than others, so growers may have to run fluorescent lights at night in order to avoid brown-outs, heat build-up, and huge electric bills.

The physical housing of an African violet collection can also affect violet plant growth. For some growers, basement or cellar growing is possible, but can result in problems with mildew and with too-cool temperatures. For others, housing space may be at a premium, and these growers are forced to learn how to "stack" their plants if they wish to have large collections. Growers who depend on natural light will find that the width of the windowsill and the design of the windows can make a difference in how easily violets can be grown.

ADAPTING ADVICE

Every bit of advice offered is intended to be helpful. No one wants to send a beginning grower astray. It is important to remember that all advice must be adapted to ones own specific situation.

It is wise to seek the advice of someone in your area who is having success growing African violets. Then as you become more skilled, you may wish to experiment with advice from those living in other regions.

IN CONCLUSION

We are very pleased to write this column for beginners. But we are very conscious that many readers do not have the lovely conditions we enjoy in Nebraska — wide-open spaces, sunshine, near-perfect water, and relatively inexpensive utilities. Our best advice is to move here, but barring that, we will strive to help you wherever you are!

In future columns, we plan to write about how to select varieties, how to produce more bloom, and how to turn your plants into blue ribbon winners, along with basic information for successful growing. We welcome comments and suggestions, especially on topics for future columns.

COMING EVENTS

JULY 11 - 14 CANADA — Gesneri-Québec presents "Gesneriads With a French Accent," the 1990 annual convention, show and sale of the American Gloxinian and Gesneriad Society will be held in Québec City at the Château Frontenac. Plant sales open July 12, 10 p.m. - midnight; flower show and plant sales, July 13, 3:30-6 p.m. & 10 p.m. - midnight; July 14, 9:15 a.m. - noon. Guest speakers: Christian Feuillet, "Gesneriads of Guiana," Denis Croteau, "Hybridizing Episcias," Denis Barabé, "Columneas of the Montréal Botanical Gardens," Bill Burtt, "Gesneriads of the Old World." For room reservations, contact the Château Frontenac (418) 692-3861. For more information contact Larry Hodgson (418) 681-4986.

AUGUST 23 & 24 MINNESOTA — AVS of Minnesota, "A Symphony of Violets," Minnesota State Fairgrounds, Snelling & Como Ave., St. Paul. Both days, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Barb Wohlfeld, show chairman; Jean Ness, co-chairman.

AUGUST 25 & 26 WASHINGTON — Puget Sound Gesneriad Society show/sale, Seattle Center Exhibition Hall, Seattle, in conjunction with the Seattle Flower Show. Aug. 25, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Aug. 26, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Tickets \$5 at the door for entire show. For information: 206-759-0905. Doreen Hovermale, president.

SEPTEMBER 27 - 30 OHIO — Ohio State AVS show/sale, Kingwood Center, Mansfield. Open to the public, Sept. 29 & 30, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Scheduled workshops both afternoons. Free admission. Martha Bradney, show chairman, 513-773-6603.

SEPTEMBER 29 & 30 ILLINOIS — Northern Illinois AVS display/sale, Friendship Park Conservatory, 395 Algonquin Rd., Des Plaines. Sept. 29, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Sept. 30, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

OCTOBER 13 CALIFORNIA — Fancy Bloomers of Sonoma County AVS show/sale, "Down Home Fun," St. Mark Lutheran Church, 4325 Mayette Ave., Santa Rosa. 1 - 4 p.m. Free admission. "Ya'll come now, hear," Byron Borck, show chairman.

OCTOBER 13 & 14 ILLINOIS — Glenview/North Shore AVS display/sale, Botanic Garden, Glencoe off Lake Cook Rd. and Edens Expwy. Parking - \$3.00 non-member.

OCTOBER 13 & 14 MICHIGAN — Michigan State AVS' 28th annual show/sale, Sheraton Inn, I-75 at Pierson Rd., Flint. Show hours, noon - 5 p.m., Oct. 13; 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Oct. 14. Open to the public, free admission. Educational session Oct. 13 at 2 p.m. For information: 313-437-3833 or 313-526-4321.

OCTOBER 26 MISSOURI — Missouri Valley AV Council Judging School, Ramada Inn South, 5701 Longview Rd., Kansas City. Teacher, Mrs. Maurice (Jackie) Jones. Fee, \$10.00. For more information or to register please write: Mrs. Royce N. Schafer, 3830 Woodland Court, Davenport, IA 52807.



HONOR ROLL OF AFRICAN VIOLETS

Rita Hilton
2295 W. Helen Circle, Bartow, Florida 33830

To be on the Honor Roll of African Violets, a variety must have appeared on the Best Varieties List for five consecutive years.

1979

- Ballet Marta #2899 (Geo. J. Ball Inc.)
Blue Storm #2464 (Lyon)
Christmas Holly (Reed)
Double Black Cherry #1178 (Anderson)
Dora Baker #2084 (Vern Lorenzen)
Duet (Richter)
Granger's Musetta #2575 (Granger)
Granger's Serenity #2578 (Granger)
Granger's Swiss Ballet #2579 (Granger)
Like Wow Sport (Lyon)
Rhapsodie Mars (Holtkamp)
Spring Deb #2348 (Granger)
Vern's Delight #2271 (Vern Lorenzen)

1980

- Becky #2669 (Maas)
Coral Caper #2727 (Lyon)
Corpus Christi #3075 (Utz)
Crimson Frost #2706 (Granger)
Edith Peterson #2561 (Constantinov)
Gotcha #2205 (Lyon)
Granger's Eternal Snow #2573 (Granger)
Granger's Regina #2716 (Granger)
Lavender Tempest #2709 (Granger)
Midget Bon Bon #2280 (Champion)
Mrs. Greg #2361 (Vern Lorenzen)
Pink Viceroy #2714 (Granger)
Pixie Blue #2598 (Lyon)
Sailor's Dream #3108 (Kolb Greenhouse)
Tina #2680 (Maas)
The King #2698 (Maas)
The Parson's Wife #2317 (Rev. Blades)

1981

- Faith #2707 (Granger)
Flamingo #2670 (Maas)
Helene #2885 (Lyon)

Jason #3004 (Maas)

Mark #3007 (Maas)

Orion #2069 (R. Anderson)

Ruffled Red #2679 (Maas)

Sweet Mary #2489 (Vern Lorenzen)

Tommie Lou #1744 (Oden)

1982

- Alouette #2787 (Fredette)
Amazing Grace #3688 (Soultz)
Ballet Anna #2890 (Geo. J. Ball Inc.)
Firebird #2818 (Granger)
French Lilac #2844 (Swift)
Gr. Starburst #2874 (Granger)
Gr. Sylvan Blue #2875 (Granger)
Joyful #3168 (Lyon)
Little Delight #3169 (Lyon)
Little Jim #3005 (Maas)
Millie Blair #3020 (Granger)
Pink 'N Ink #3173 (Lyon)
Sam (Lyon)
Winter Grape #2789 (Fredette)

1983

- Abigail Adams #3226 (Fredette)
Beginner's Luck #2803 (Pritchett)
Cat's Meow #3238 (Swift)
Celine #3188 (Maas)
Dardevil (Burton)
Dyn-O-Mite #3440 (Lyon)
Gr. Cameo Queen #3863 (Granger)
Gr. White Cockatoo #3417 (Granger)
Pixie Pink #2599 (Lyon)
Red Wow (Lyon)
Sunlit Sugar Plum #4599 (Scott)

1984

- Betcha #3144 (Swift)
China Pink #3429 (Fredette)

Chris (Maas)
Colorado #3152 (Holtkamp)
Coral Radiance #3672 (Lyon)
Dear Ellie #3439 (Lyon)
Gr. Wonderland #3419 (Granger)
Ms. Pretty #5225 (Anderson)
Sammie Ballard #3563 (Granger)
Sanibel #3377 (Leary)
Silver Lining #3629 (Fredette)
Snowy Trail #3678 (Lyon)
Sparkle Plenty #2786 (Egenites)
Tiger #3433 (Fredette)
Wanderlust #3786 (Granger)
Verna Lynn (Fredette)

1985

Autumn Honey #4462 (Groeneman)
Black Ace #3541 (Nadeau)
Cherry Frosting #4333 (Fredette)
Disco Dazzler #3909 (Lyon)
Gr. Carnival #4298 (Gr. Gardens)
Gr. Heart's Desire #3407 (Gr. Gardens)
Irish Angel #4054 (Annalee)
Kristi Marie #3914 (Lyon)
Polly Doodle #4339 (Fredette)
Rhap. Barbara n/r (Holtkamp)
Something Special #3668 (Nadeau)
Splish Splash n/r (Lyon)
Spring Fling #3553 (Nadeau)
Sundown #3598 (Utz)
Swamp Fever #4046 (Sisk)

1986

Chris Leppard #4636 (Maas)
Dominique #4345 (Fredette)
Fisher's Leone #4540 (E. Fisher)
Lady Baltimore #4337 (Fredette)
Love Bug #4513 (Lyon)
Marie Knoblock #4042 (Sisk)
Nevada n/r (Holtkamp)
New Mexico n/r (Holtkamp)
Snuggles #5018 (Lyon)
Spanish Moss #4045 (Sisk)

1987

Fisherman's Paradise #4843 (Sisk)
Gr. Desert Dawn #4050 (Eyerdom)
Hawaii n/r (Holtkamp)
Happy Cricket #5726 (Hollada)
Interlude #4935 (Gr. Gardens)
Ms. Pretty #5225 (Anderson)
Winnegreen #4693 (Pittman)

1988

Camelot Pink #4293 (H. Eyerdom)
Cactus Rose #4147 (Fredette)
Crystallaire #4295 (H. Eyerdom)
Glittersweet #4431 (Fredette)
Gr. Valencia #4051 (Granger)
Kingwood Red #4308 (H. Eyerdom)
Summer Lightning #5023 (Lyon)
Trail Along N/R (Lyon)
Vibrant Val #3918 (Lyon)

1989

Anna Kreeck #5784 (Trent)
Big Bird #5155 (Fredette)
Christmas Candy-O #5032 (Groeneman)
Columbia #5450 (Eyerdom)
Dumplin #3931 (Swift)
Fairy Queen N/R (Fisher)
Kiwi Dazzle #5888 (Snell)
Mauna Loa #5336 (Eyerdom)
Optimara Alabama #6542 (Holtkamp)
Splendiferous #5813 (Whitaker)
Wrangler's Dixie Celebration #4490 (Smith)

POET'S CORNER

I was given a leaf to put down
With patience and hope and with care
I potted and bagged it, and with a prayer
It finally developed a crown.

Weeks - months; they seemed like years
Though it looked very healthy and green
Nowhere — but nowhere — a blossom was
seen

It almost drove me to tears.

Why do I feel so happy and gay
Though the sky is cloudy and drear
The reason for my joy is clear
My violet bloomed today!

Elaine M. Schaid
Chicago, IL



mini - tidbits



Florence Naylor

2647 Harbor Boulevard, Ventura, CA 93001

Many things took place at the Boston convention. I am pleased to announce the latest addition to our committee. Dr. Ralph Robinson has consented to represent the New York and New England area to replace Ray Dooley. His address is: 96 Harriet St., Tonawanda, NY 14150. If you have questions on growing miniatures or semiminiatures in the northeast, ask Ralph for advice.

The results of the 25 Best miniature/semiminatures are in. They are:

1. Snuggles
2. Little Katherine
3. Precious Pink
4. Little Pro
5. Hart's Snow White
6. Optimara Rose Quartz
7. Irish Angel
8. Magic Blue
9. Rob's Blue Light
10. Everdina
11. Dawn Michelle
12. Rob's Megan Lynn
13. Pixie Blue
14. Mickey Mouse
15. Rob's Sticky Wicket
16. Pay Dirt
17. Super Skirt
18. Rob's Soliloquy
19. Optimara Little Sapphire
20. Falling Snow
21. Party Lace
22. Winnergreen
23. Little Jim
24. Wunnerful
25. Wee-Be

I thank all who took time out to send in their favorites lists. Out of 328 possible candidates, these 25 prevailed as the most grown and ap-

preciated. They certainly are all winners in my book. It shows a nice mix of older cultivars and the new. It also shows that there is a great diversity of opinion across the country as to what is best show material.

There has been a clarification of the term microminiature. It is a term to be used for descriptive purposes only, i.e., microminiature foliage, but does NOT indicate a new subclass. However, should an affiliate want a special class to exhibit plants grown in the "thumb pots" it can be written into the Show Schedule, which is the law of the show. Many plants grown in the "thumb pots" have not been truly microminiature in all aspects, but miniature or semiminiature according to hybridizers description. Therefore, although a plant may seem to be microminiature in size, when allowed to grow in a 2-inch pot will become a normal miniature or semiminiature.

For those of you who have been getting much larger miniatures and semiminiatures than the show rules allow, you may want to test a theory shared by Dr. Ralph Robinson. He thinks some plants when crowded will tend to grow larger than they normally do as a survival trait. It is a common problem among African violet growers to run out of space before we do plants. He seems to think if plants are grown with more space between each other, they will tend to stay smaller as they are meant, rather than having to fight for space for survival. If your leaves are bigger than they should be, give this theory a try and let me know what results you get. It is a shame to see a beautifully grown plant not judged because it exceeds the 6 or 8 inch diameter size limit. The other techniques to try are cooler growing conditions, smaller pot size, weaker fertilizer, and placing plants closer to light fixtures.

IN MEMORY



BILL JOHNSON

A dear, dear friend is gone.

Bill Johnson, "Ask Your Hybridizer," columnist for this magazine died Monday, May 14, 1990 at the Elyria (OH) Memorial Hospital after a short illness. He was 61.

Bill began his hybridizer column in the September, 1985 issue of the African Violet Magazine. Very quickly, his question and answer format dealing with the intricacies of hybridizing became extremely popular. He was a steady contributor of articles for the AVM and had won several publication awards.

A feature article on Bill, written by Walt Maurus, appeared in the March/April 1990 issue of this magazine.

He hybridized the famed Nortex "Haven" series of African violets and 13 Ultraviolet cultivars now in production and soon to be named and widely distributed for Green Circle Growers, Inc., of Oberlin, OH.

Bill and his wife of 40 years, Jimmie, became familiar figures at the African Violet Society's national conventions. His enthusiasm, warmth, professionalism and caring touched everyone who knew him, whether personally, or by the constant correspondence he kept with many, many members. He was an active member of the Boyce Edens Research Fund Committee, a position he had held for many years.

Danny Missler, general manager of Green Circle Growers, said Bill's middle name should have been, "Mr. Enthusiasm." "His approach to

showing us the definite possibilities of bringing the hobbyists market into the commercial entity, brought a level of energy not seen in younger people. What we thought was impossible, he made into a reality. His visions of the yellow violet were always positive, as well as variegated foliage into commercial stock. Bill was one heck of a guy — everyone loved him."

Nolan Blansit, also of Green Circle Growers, spoke of Bill's 13 varieties now in production. "They are beautiful hybrids and we are now building stock. Bill made 50 initial crosses into the commercial lines." Bill was responsible for bringing Nolan to Green Circle Growers and working out the agreement with them for the yellow violet to be released in 1992.

Included in the homily given at Bill's funeral by the Rev. Laurie Hallman of the First Unitarian Church, Dallas, TX, were these reflections, "Bill kept a notebook on his desk. He at heart was always a writer, and had the minister's habit of collecting quotes and writing short bits of wisdom, as they emerged in his life. One of the entries in his notebook said, 'Mine is a large dream, so large that it cannot be totally realized in my lifetime. But, 'a man's reach should exceed his grasp ...'"

We here at the AVSA office and the African Violet Magazine will miss him greatly and express our sympathies to his family.

Memorials may be made to Boyce Edens Research Fund, AVSA, c/o Marlene Buck, Box 38, Oreland, PA 19075.

Survivors include his wife, Jimmie of Elyria, OH; son, David W. Johnson of Garland, TX; granddaughter, Shannon Johnson, and father, Herbert Johnson of Greenville, AL.

*Jane Birge, Editor
African Violet Magazine*

*Other sources:
Walt Maurus,
Rev. Laurie Hallman.
Bill & Paula Foster*

FLORENCE & KIRBY WALKER



The Texas African violet community has lost one of its treasured members and her spouse. Florence and Kirby Walker of San Antonio died in a car accident on April 29, 1990.

Florence was a former member of Magic

Knight AVS, NASA AVS of Houston, Central Texas Judges Council, Lone Star AV Council and Dixie AVS. She was a Master Judge.

Joining the Magic Knight AVS in 1981, she served on many committees and held several offices. She had been well known for growing very large award-winning standard African violet plants and trailers. She hybridized 'Armand' and 'Pink Solitaire.'

Florence made her imprint on the world of violets and touched many people. Florence and Kirby will be sadly missed by all who knew them.

Survivors include two sons, Kirby Walker of Pasadena and John Walker of Austin, a sister and several grandchildren.

*Lynda Welchel
Magic Knight AVS
San Antonio, TX*

EMMA EHLERT

Emma Ehler died on April 29, 1990 in the Sierra Vista Care Center, AZ. Originally from Buffalo, NY, Emma ran a African violet shop from her home at 102 Gorton St.

In 1981, she and her daughter, Doris Giehr (and husband) moved to Pearce, AZ. While there, they started the Sunsites AVC. Emma will be greatly missed by all her friends and family.

*Robin Maly
Member*

EDNA JOHNSTON

Edna Johnston, long-time AVSA member died February 26, 1990. She was an active member in the Belle Fourche, SD and Minot, ND violet clubs. She was 103.

Vesta Short, Daughter

Don't be left out!

See "Violets in the Golden State"

*Cathy Cornibe
Publicity Chairman
Santa Clara AVSA Convention '91*

Consider this your formal invitation to come to the 45th Annual AVSA Convention in Santa Clara, California. We would love to have you with us! Schedule your trip for April 22nd-28th, 1991.

While you are in our Golden State of California stay at the new Doubletree Hotel in the Santa Clara Valley.

The exciting Santa Clara Valley is located south of San Francisco, at the lower tip of the San Francisco Bay. You will find art, music, museums, spectacular scenery, a world famous entertainment park, one of California's largest premium wine producing regions, year-round outdoor recreation, and much, much more!

You'll love our incredible Mediterranean climate, which has an average year-round temperature of 68 degrees.

Dining in Santa Clara will be a memorable occasion because whatever you desire is here. Santa Clara has such a wide variety of ethnic cuisine, ranging from Polish to Moroccan, and hamburgers to seafood at prices that accommodate anyone's budget.

Don't miss seeing all of those gorgeous show plants and the beautiful designs! And who can resist going back again, and again, to the Commercial Sales Room and buying "just one more?"

It is always exciting to be at an AVSA Convention. Why stay at home when you can come to the 1991 convention in California and have so much fun?

So start singing "California Here I Come." Make plans NOW to be with us at the 1991 AVSA Convention, "Violets In The Golden State," in Santa Clara, California.

Don't be left out!

Ask Your Hybridizer!

Bill Johnson
1221 West River Road, #A2
Elyria, OH 44035



Editor's Note: It is with a very heavy heart that I edit and publish this final "Ask Your Hybridizer" column. Bill Johnson died Monday, May 14, 1990. The "Ask Your Hybridizer" heading will be retired, in deference to Bill, who created this very popular column. We here at the AVSA office and the African Violet Magazine will miss him beyond words. Good-bye, Bill.

Every week, as a part of my work, I sow thousands of *Saintpaulia* seeds in search of African violets of greater beauty, originality, and heightened performance. It is fascinating that in nature there are so many different kinds of seed. It is also interesting in language to note the many meanings we give to the word *seed*. It is the source, origin, or beginning of anything; oppression sows the *seed* of revolt. It is the period of life when passion and productivity have waned; individuals can go to *seed*. In sports, *to seed*, means to distribute the names of the ranking contestants in a tournament so that those with the greatest skill are not matched together in the early rounds. In botany, *seed* is that part of a flowering plant that contains the embryo that will develop into a new plant if sown.

The usual development of new and improved violets begins with the creation of new seed through cross pollination of existing cultivars. Then, when this seed is sown, each seed produces a new and unique individual. Most of these individuals will be no better than their parents, and a few may be distinctly inferior. Only a minute fraction of them will be superior. These selected superior individuals can then be cloned (by leaf) into many thousands of identi-

cal plants.

Q. I have just been browsing through a seed catalog, and it tickled my curiosity to ask some questions about seed. What exactly is F1 hybrid seed? How is it developed? Why is it the best? Why is it the most expensive? Will we ever have such seed for African violets?

A. I am going to answer your last question first, because I have some exciting news to share. There is now available F1 hybrid seed for four different violet cultivars. One is a solid pink, another a pure white, and the third is a white and purple bicolor. At this writing, I do not know the color of the fourth and newest cultivar. I mentioned briefly the availability of this genetically pure violet seed in the September/October 1989 column. Since that time, I have been visited by Martien Gutter, the originator of these F1 hybrid seed violets. He works for a 125-year-old seed company in Holland that is one of the largest in the world. These new violets that come true from seed have taken 15 years to produce.

While it is too early to judge the significance of this development, the possibility exists that seed production of African violets could one day rival the production of violets from leaf cuttings. We have exactly that situation today in geranium production. In any case, I greatly enjoyed the opportunity of "talking violets" with Martien Gutter, and being able to share with him the progress of our own hybridizing.

Now to the answers of your other questions which will reveal the significance of F1 hybrid seed. F1 hybrid seed is the first generation seed resulting from a cross of two unlike plants that have been inbred to genetic purity. To achieve this genetic purity, that will cause the plant to

come true from seed, may require six or more generations of self pollination. The plant is then homozygous (AA or aa) for all of its traits and genetically is no longer a hybrid. The result of this intensive inbreeding is a plant that is greatly reduced in vigor. But when two such inbred individuals are crossed, the F1 generation produces plants markedly superior in vigor and performance. This is known as heterosis, or hybrid vigor. The story of the increased yield of F1 hybrid corn, wheat, and other grains staggers the imagination and amounts to billions of dollars of increased farm revenue.

F1 hybrid seed is more expensive because it is more difficult to produce. It is produced upon a seed parent that is lacking in normal vigor due to inbreeding. Thus it takes longer to produce the seed, and crop failure is not uncommon.

Q. I have become infected with "Violitis" and have recently discovered this excellent magazine. I have been reviewing back issues, paying particular attention to your column. Many of my questions have been answered by your column. I am very interested in hybridizing micro-minis. I have some miniature violets purchased at a flower show. The vendor did not know anything about the plants. I assume these plants were grown from seed, and that the vendor thought that they had no real value. If I want to use some of these plants in my hybridizing program, what would I call them? Does it matter if I do not know their background? Also, do I have to use all micro-minis in the hybridizing program (micro-mini X micro-mini) to produce micro-miniatures?

A. Nothing seems to bring greater joy to a "violet nut" than to hear that someone else has become afflicted with the violet disease. As an advanced sufferer, let me welcome you to the fellowship! Violets for many of us are not just plants, but a way of life.

It is permissible to hybridize with a violet cultivar whose origin is unknown and impossible to determine. When faced with this circumstance, you can assign a code designation to the cultivar that identifies it to you. In your case, you might choose to call these unknown seedlings, "FS-1 Pink" or "FS-2 Blue" or whatever you choose. I suggested "FS" to stand for their flower show origin.

You do not have to use all micro-minis in

your hybridizing to produce micro-minis. In order to introduce other traits, you can cross micro-minis with other miniatures, semiminiatures, or standards. When you sow your seed, you then select from the seedlings, only the obviously smaller growing plants from the standard size ones. Any size violet can thus be miniaturized in one generation. To develop true micro-minis you will need to cross the smallest selections with each other.

Q. Several of the new micro-miniature violets that I have purchased seem to be rather variable when I have grown new plants from a leaf. Do you think micro-miniatures are more unstable as a group than standards?

A. From my mail, conversations with others, and my own experience, it does seem that some of these are quite unstable.

Q. I have a question about a problem with one of my violets that no one in my club could answer for me. Perhaps you can help me. One of my favorite varieties, which has a star shaped bloom, sometimes gets blooms that open too much. These blooms are unattractive to me. They are like an "inside out" umbrella in appearance. Is this caused by some cultural condition that I can correct or is this a genetic problem?

A. You are not at fault. The bloom shape you describe is a genetic inheritance. I see this trait fairly often in the star-shaped seedlings, where the blooms distort and look like an umbrella caught in a windstorm!

Addendum: Danny Missler, the manager of the violet range at Green Circle Growers, Dr. Royal Heins of Michigan State University, and I have collaborated on the development of an African violet Cultivar Rating sheet. With the use of this form, a grower or hybridizer can numerically grade existing cultivars or proposed new introductions. Points are given or subtracted for 16 different categories of beauty and performance. This sheet provides a practical tool for the selection or development of the best violets. It is a useful source of suggested hybridizing goals.

We will be happy to share a copy of this rating sheet with anyone interested, if you will send a SASE with your request. Please send requests to: Nolan Blansit, c/o Green Circle Growers, Inc., 15650 St. Rt. 511, Oberlin, OH 44074.

A Chemical Analysis of the Flower Pigments in African Violets: Part II

Dr. Jeff Smith
1359 Dorchester
Norman, OK 73069

African violets occur in a variety of colors and shades. Part I of this paper reported on a chemical analysis of the flower pigments using the technique of chromatography. Based on the results, it was possible to divide the pigment colors in African violets into seven main categories. The seven classes are:

1. Blues: Malvidin 3-Rutinoside-5-Glucoside.
2. Reds: Peonidin 3-Rutinoside-5-Glucoside.
3. Pinks: Pelargonidin 3-Rutinoside-5-Glucoside.
4. Corals: Pelargonidin 3-Rutinoside.
5. Coral Reds: Peonidin 3-Rutinoside.
6. Yellows: Flavonol.
7. Whites: No pigment present.

Part I reported on plants that had only one type of anthocyanin pigment present in its flower. A somewhat unexpected result from the study, however, was the observation that the anthocyanin pigments can also be mixed or found in various combinations in some plants. The study by Khokhar et. al. (1982) upon which this work was based, reported the same pigments found here for the Pinks, Reds, and Blues. They also reported that one plant produced by radiation treatment had Pink and Red areas (fantasy pattern?) in its flower, but no other combinations of pigments were reported. I have found several combinations of pigments in African violet flowers such as blends, zones, and fantasy.

What I refer to as a *blend* is a flower that has two pigments evenly distributed throughout the petals so that no separate color areas can be identified. The petals appear to have only one pigment, but the chromatography analysis clearly shows that one or more pigments were present in the original flower. This effect was first noted in a flower that had both Pink and Red pigments in it. The visible color was a rosy pink and I was unsure before the analysis if it

was a Red or a Pink. The ultra violet examination of the pigment spots clearly showed the two pigments. The Red anthocyanin will fluoresce a bright yellow. Examples were later found for blends in all combinations of the primary pigments of Pink, Red and Blue. A Pink and Blue combination gives an orchid or lavender color to the flower. A Red and Blue combination gives a red-violet flower. Examples of plants with all three blend combinations are given in Table 1. The same type of blending should be possible with the coral colors as well, but none were identified during this study. This may represent an instance where the proper plant breeding could establish some new color possibilities in African violets provided the genetic basis of blends can be determined. A Coral and Coral Red blend, for example, should be very striking.

In addition to the blends, some flowers were found to have zones of pigment combinations. By a *zone*, I am referring to areas of a flower that have a distinct color zone or region that can be visibly identified from another zone area. Starburst was the first plant found with the zone pattern. This flower has petals with a Pink edge and a Red center. The difference between the two pigment zones can be seen upon careful examination. Plants with the zone pattern might well be classified as a true "bicolor" since two different pigments are present in the same flower. Petals with white areas or Geneva edges might not qualify as a bicolor since the white areas do not have a second pigment. They appear to have two color zones because one area has a pigment, the second does not.

Plants with the fantasy pattern have been known for some time to have combinations of pigments corresponding to the various colored areas produced by the fantasy pattern. I found examples of several combinations of pigments

in the fantasy pattern, as reported in Table 1. One fantasy pattern that is frequently overlooked, however, is the Pink and Red combination. The Red fantasy areas are very small in spot size and tend to be unnoticed. These plants are usually classified as a Pink or Red and not a fantasy. The pigment analysis clearly shows that two pigments are present and close examination will reveal the Red fantasy spots on the Pink background. Breeding with these plants would produce offspring with the fantasy pattern when neither parent was thought to carry this typically dominant genetic trait. Here is another example of where an analysis of the pigments might avoid some mistaken ideas on the genetic background of a plant.

Combinations of blends, zones, and fantasy can also occur. Leoné, for example, was found to be a Red and Blue blend with pink fantasy areas. One of my seedlings (5-E) was found to be a Pink and Red zoned plant (like Starburst) with Blue fantasy areas. As mentioned earlier, I have found no examples of blends, zones or fantasy flowers in the coral color combinations. These combinations should be possible. It would only be a matter of producing the proper crosses to get them.

A combination of pigments that I detected toward the end of the study was the Coral Red and Red blend found in Brilliant Excuse and in Burnished Halo. My first analysis of these plants showed only the Red pigment. A repeat of the analysis finally detected the Coral Red pigment as well. I had been suspicious of the first results given the unusual color found in Burnished Halo, which may represent a zone of the colors and not a blend. The Coral and Coral Red pigments do not fluoresce and tend to fade quickly after the pigment separation. These combinations will be very difficult to detect both visually and by analysis unless great care is taken in their examination. It might be possible for a Coral-Pink blend or a Blue-Coral Blue blend to exist as well, but their detection would be difficult.

The analysis of the Nolan Blansit's Yellows has confirmed the presence of a new class of pigments for African violets, the flavonols (Smith, 1990). The various combinations of blends, zones and fantasy patterns are possible

in Yellows as they are for the other pigment colors. Blansit Seedlings FP-8 and FQ-6, for example, show combinations of Yellow with the anthocyanin pigments. If Yellow could be blended with a Red or Coral Red, the resulting color could likely be an orange or true red. Only time and breeding will tell what the full potential of Yellow will be on the future flower color in African violets.

In conclusion, the results of the full study showed that the myriad of colors in African violet flowers could be classified into a relatively small number of seven main classes or categories. These pigments can occur singularly or in various combinations of blends, zones or fantasy patterns. One pigment can also be distributed variously in the petals to produce the two tones and raspberry edge patterns. One major result, however, is that some colors and combinations of colors that should exist, have not yet been identified. Given the large number of varieties of African violets, it is possible that the missing pigments and/or combinations were simply not included among the varieties tested. An alternate explanation, however, is that they haven't yet been bred. If hybridizers apply themselves to these pigment possibilities and can introduce the new Yellows as well, I predict that many new combinations and colors will be developed in African violets over the next few years. For those people who might have thought that all color possibilities in African violets have been produced, I would say that we have only just begun.

Acknowledgments:

Thanks to Gordon Boone, Nolan Blansit, and Frank Tinari for graciously supplying flower materials for analysis. The use of the laboratories and cooperation of the Botany and Microbiology Department at the University of Oklahoma is appreciated. Financial support for chemicals and supplies was provided through a grant from the Boyce Edens Research Fund. This project would not have been possible without the understanding and loving support of my family for all the weekends spent in the lab.

Literature Cited:

Khokhar, J. A., J. M. Humphreys, K. C. Short, and B. W. W. Grout. 1982. Anthocyanins in

African Violet. HortScience 17(5): 810-811.
Smith, J. 1990. Yellow Fever Continues. AVM
43(1): 43-44.

Table 1: Combinations of Pigments

A. Blend: An even mixture of pigments.

Pink and Red:	Smith Seedling 1-A
Pink and Blue:	Phantom Flash
	Ruth's Halo
Red and Blue:	Boone Seedling 123
Red and Coral Red:	Brilliant Excuse
	Burnished Halo

B. Zone: Two or more separate distinct areas of pigment.

Pink and Red:	Smith Seedling 1-M
	Starburst
Pink and Yellow:	Blansit Seedling FP-8

C. Fantasy: Spots of one pigment scattered on a background of a second pigment.

Red on Pink:	Smith Seedling 5-H
Blue on Pink:	Fantasy Charm
	Intergalactic
Blue on Red:	Fantasy Jewel
	Smith Seedling 5-G

D. Combinations of Blend, Zone, and Fantasy:

Blansit Seedling FQ-6: White with yellow eye in combination with Pink and Blue fantasy.

Leoné: Pink fantasy on Red and Blue blend.

Smith Seedling 5-E: Blue fantasy on Pink and Red zone.

An Appeal to the AVM Readership From Dr. Jeff Smith

Dr. Jeff Smith is appealing to the AVM readership for assistance on a research project with African violets.

The African Violet Society has granted him another Boyce Edens Research grant to continue his chemical analysis of African violet flower pigments. In order for this project to be successful, he will need additional flower samples to analyze. He would like to ask the AVM readership to send him flower samples from their collections.

What he needs for the project is the following:

Flower stalks with several open or just opening flowers are best. Prepare the stalks for mailing like one would do a leaf (wrap the cut end in

wet cotton, cover with foil, and place in a plastic bag). A small box will hold several samples. Be sure each sample is accurately identified and labeled.

He is interested in samples from almost anything, but particularly unusual colors and shades. Samples from the "species" would also be appreciated. He hopes to find the "Coral Blue" predicted from the previous pigment analysis work. All donors will receive a report on the analysis of their flowers.

Samples should be mailed to:

Dr. Jeff Smith
1359 Dorchester
Norman, OK 73069

YOUR LIBRARY

L. T. Ocio, Jr.
1009 Ditch Avenue
Morgan City, LA 70380



"Summertime and the livin' is easy" is taken from the lyrics of George Gershwin's ever-popular song. Summertime is also the time that a number of AVSA affiliates recess for a month or two before starting a new club year. It is during this recess that many Program Chairmen take advantage of the easy living to plan for their club activities for the coming year.

The AVSA Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors, and Judges offers a large number of subject areas that can be used for programs. The list can be found on pages 73 and 76 of the handbook.

Let's go over the list of slide programs and packets that are offered for circulation by the AVSA Library Committee and you will find many helpful programs suitable to your club's needs.

If your affiliate enjoys viewing new introductions you could cover one subject area by requesting any of the "New Introduction" types of programs. Perhaps as program chairman you would like to make a comparison of new introductions offered several years ago with those presently on the market, or soon to be on hybridizers and/or commercials' lists. Should you decide to offer such a program, then you should request one of the older slide programs for one meeting then follow it by showing a program of newer plants the next month.

Many affiliates are fortunate in having new growers join their clubs each year. Even though many of the members already are familiar with violet propagation, the program chairman may find it necessary to offer such a program for the benefit of the new members. We offer "Violets and More Violets" that could be used for such an occasion.

A good program that could be considered

under the subject area of African violet culture would be the one entitled, "The Saintpaulia Species." This is a program that was made to not only entertain but to educate.

African violet grooming would be well covered in the program, "Pointers in Judging." This popular program explains in detail methods used to prepare a plant for its entry in a show.

The program on African violet pests offered by Dr. Charles L. Cole is a popular one indeed. The many diseases and pests that affect African violets are shown with vivid illustrations in this program.

A slide program on judging or analysis of plants can be arranged around the program, "Pointers in Judging" referred to in a preceding paragraph.

Looking for new ideas to include in the show schedule of your upcoming African violet show? Then you can borrow the Show Schedule packet. This group of sample schedules is a collection made up of schedules from all sections of the country. You may find more than one new idea in your pack. A club planning its first show would have many good samples with which to work.

Another subject area for programs would be "Designs and the Decorative Uses of African Violets." The offering of slide programs on designs could be enjoyed by both groups — the novices and the more experienced designers.

Many African violet growers in our AVSA affiliates have found that other gesneriads can actually be grown along with African violets since many of them can grow (and enjoy!) the same growing conditions. With success comes the desire to grow more of them. The AVSA Library offers a number of programs covering

the "other" members of the family. "Meet the Family" and "Gesneriad Favorites" both contain excellent culture and propagation information as well as being sources of enjoyment for those who want to broaden their growing horizons.

AVSA Library has many other slide programs that would fall into one or more of the subject areas suggested by the Handbook. Look over the listing of slide programs and packets and choose the ones you would enjoy using. A complete list can be found every year in the July/August issue of the AV magazine.

Now would be a good time to send your order for slide and/or packets along with your check and alternate dates and titles to the AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, Texas 77704. Those of you living in Canada are reminded to make your request for the two new convention programs as well as the convention programs from Orlando to the present by following the usual AVSA Library rules, but sending the request and your check to: Mrs. Betty Tapping, #1512-511, The West Mall, Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 1G5 Canada. The programs will be mailed by Mrs. Tapping and you are requested to return them to her. Please remember that this offer applies to the following programs only: "The New England Spirit," "Boston's New Beauties," "Future Violets With a Royal Flair," "A Royal Treat," "New Rays of Hope," "A Grand Reunion," "Orange Blossom Specials," and "The Florida Experience." Mrs. Tapping will handle and process requests for only the above-mentioned slide programs. Should our Canadian neighbors wish to request other slide program titles, a separate request and separate check, made out to AVSA, must be sent to the AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, Texas 77704.

The two new convention shows are entitled, "The New England Spirit," and "Boston's New Beauties." The first title covers the beautiful show with its breathtaking winning plants and designs while the second title is the capsule version of the enjoyable program presented by everyone's good friend, J. R. "Sundown" Pittman at the annual Saturday luncheon of the convention. The new programs will be available for circulation on October 1, 1990. Be sure to

get your orders in early!

It was a pleasure to be a part of the Boston convention and certainly, everyone who went did catch the New England Spirit. The days spent with our good violet friends were delightful and we enjoyed meeting many of the members who were with us for their first convention.

Especially important to me were the conversations I had with members who were at the convention and wanted to discuss programs suitable for their particular needs. Keep the letters coming with your comments and suggestions; and especially your orders for AVSA Library material.

New York State AVS Convention in Syracuse

"The Gay Nineties" will be the theme expressed at the annual convention of the New York State African Violet Society, to be held at the hotels at Syracuse Square, Syracuse, New York.

Directions to hotel: New York State Thruway to Exit 35, 36, or 37, or Route 81 to Downtown Exit. Setup of show will be Thursday evening, November 8, with judging Friday morning, November 9, and show to open to the public on Saturday, November 10, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. with donation of \$1.00 at the door.

The convention is being hosted by the AVS of Syracuse.

Included in the display will be floral designs using African violet plants, and designs will express various themes of the show. Plants and supplies will be on sale during convention hours.

Members attending may wish to bring attire depicting the "Gay 90s" to be worn at one of the banquets held Friday and Saturday evenings.

All meetings will be held on the 10th floor of the hotel, and workshops will be held on "Terrariums" and "Growing With Lights," Saturday morning.

For more information contact: Richard J. Gundlach, Publicity Chairman, 442 Orwood Place, Syracuse, NY 13208, 1-315-455-2963.

QUESTION BOX



James Smith
1126 Ferry Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14301



Question: I have encountered a problem with my African violets and I hope you may be able to suggest what I should do to correct it. The first stage of the plant's deterioration shows up when one or two leaves and their petioles become limp and soft. After a few days, these leaves gradually dry out, turn dark brown in color and become hard and brittle. Although leaves in the lower row on the plant are usually affected first, this is not always the case. Plantlets from a rooted clump, having been transplanted a week or two, plants a year or so old, all seem to be subject to this scourge.

I have examined the root system of the infected plants and as far as I can tell, the roots seem to be reasonably normal. I water the plants from the bottom using saucers and have been careful not to overwater. I constantly feed the plants with a warm solution of Peter's 12-36-14 fertilizer (1/4 tsp.) and one drop of Super-thrive to a gallon of water. I use a good commercially prepared soil mix which I lighten by mixing one part perlite to three parts soil mix. Plants receive 12-13 hours of light per day. Plant placement on the shelf doesn't seem to make any difference. Temperature ranges between 65-75 degrees, while humidity hovers around 35-45% in the winter to somewhat higher in the summer.

This problem has been with me since early last summer and I have been forced to discard plants at the rate of two or three a week. Needless to say, my stock is being depleted and I find it most discouraging. I would be most grateful if you can suggest a cure for this problem.

Answer: It sounds like you might have one or two problems. Have you checked the pH level of your soil? The pH should be around 6.8 for

best growing results. Repot with fresh soil to see if that helps. When was the last time you changed your light bulbs? Believe it or not, no matter how long your light period is, if you have old light bulbs or dusty ones, this will have a great affect on the amount and also the quality of light your plants receive. I have experienced problems when there has been a change in local water treatment. Some chemicals such as fluorine and chlorine (too much of) will have an adverse effect on plants. Check with your city water suppliers to see if there have been any recent changes. Incorrect pH, poor light and toxic chemicals will cause some of the symptoms you have described.

Question: I am growing my violets on a Flo-raCart using Gro-Lux tubes which hang about 14" from the plants. The lights burn about 13-14 hours a day. I use packaged Optimara soil and water the plants half strength application of Schultz liquid fertilizer. The plants are growing beautifully and are almost constantly in bloom. I can't seem to get fantasy blooms to come true; they revert to solid colors. Do fantasies come true from leaves or do I have to root suckers?

Answer: From my experience, no matter what type of fertilizer you use, if a fantasy is going to revert to a solid color, it will. This is what some hybridizers call genetic instability. Unfortunately, there are some multicolored blossoms that have not withstood the test of time. They will revert to a solid, often when the plant blooms for the second time. There are some fantasy cultivars that will produce one or two solid blossoms with the rest of the flowers blooming true to the hybridizer's description. There really isn't anything you can do about a fantasy that tends to revert to a solid color.

except to toss it. Propagation from either a leaf or a sucker will normally produce plants like that of the parent. If you enter a plant in a show that does not bloom true to variety, it will lose many points.

I would write a nice letter to the hybridizer describing your dilemma. If I had hybridized the plant, I would want to know if anyone was having trouble growing it. If the problem is found to be consistent, I would remove the cultivar from the market.

Question: I have been raising African violets for several years. Several plants in my collection have formed necks. I have cut off the soil and tried to reroot the plant in water. But after several days, the leaves become very limp and soon turn brown. Am I supposed to leave the root ball alone or remove just enough so the plant can set in water? Do I scrape the neck so as to remove the outer covering of the stem? Is there any powder or solution I should use to help the plant recover from the shock of cutting? Would Superthrive, Allegro, or a rooting powder be of any use? I have lost three beautiful blooming plants trying to cut and root the plant in water.

Answer: How does a plant develop a neck? As your plant matures, the outer row of leaves turn brown and wither, or they are removed as a part of normal grooming.

After repeated 'trimmings,' and if the plant is not repotted, it will develop a neck. The rule to keep in mind when repotting up to a larger pot or repotting down to a smaller pot, is that the pot should be one third the size of the diameter of the plant. If you don't have a 'tree' violet, the cure should be easy and painless for both you and hopefully, the violet. The plant should be on the dry side (not bone dry) when surgery is planned. Remove the plant from the pot. With your eyes wide open, cut 1/2 to 3/4 of soil from the rootball. Keeping in mind the plant-to-pot measurements discussed above, place the plant in its new pot and fill with fresh soil. Be sure that you center the crown of the plant in the pot. If your African violet has grown into a 'palm tree,' you will need to restart it from the crown. Either way, it is best to use a rooting mixture consisting of vermiculite, perlite and charcoal. (1 C. vermiculite + 1 C. perlite + 1/2 C. charcoal =

excellent rooting mixture) Keep mixture moist at all times. Use the same water with fertilizer as is used on your other specimens. Place a plastic bag over the entire pot. This will help retain humidity and does promote rapid rooting. I never use just water to root leaves. Using this rooting mixture, when using fluorescent lights or natural light, I have had small plants appearing in just five to six weeks from the time the leaf was planted.

The theory for not using 'just water' is that the root system is not as strong compared to those roots formed in the rooting mixture. Roots may die when planted into soil and the leaf will go through the process of rooting again. The water method, from my experience, takes longer. Baby plants are not as strong as compared to those from leaves that were started using the rooting mixture. I have had good luck using products such as Allegro, Sturdy, and Bounty and growing enhancers. Plants, leaves and rerooted crowns responded better when using these growing products in conjunction with 1/4 tsp. of regular fertilizer.

If you are lucky enough to stay at a hotel where they provide you with complimentary bath items, and one of them is a shower cap, don't toss it out. This cap has an elastic band around it and it is a perfect 'greenhouse' to put over your rooted cuttings. I can just see everyone running from room to room at the next AVSA convention, swiping shower caps—and remember, you didn't read it here! Good luck!

Next column, my findings concerning Diatomaceous Earth and its benefits.

Pins and Patches Available From Boston Convention

There are a limited number of both pins and patches from the Boston convention available. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Ruth Warren, P. O. Box 3664, Fall River, MA 02722. Pins are \$1.00 and patches are \$2.00, each.

Many conventioneers are swapping these articles from past conventions. Why don't you have a few on hand so you may swap for those you do not have. The supply is limited. Send your request now.

Attention: Yearbook Competitors

*Genelle Armstrong
1313 Gardenia Drive
Metairie, LA*

It was a pleasure to serve as Chairman of the Yearbook entries for the 1990 AVSA Convention Show. Thanks to all the clubs submitting their yearbooks. Just to compete is no small accomplishment since a lot of work goes into preparing a club yearbook. While it is fresh in my mind, I'd like to offer some hints I hope you will find helpful if your club already participates and also if your club has been thinking about entering in the yearbook competition.

First—the most important aspect of entering a yearbook is to get it in on time. Since our AVSA convention has to be flexible, the deadline for entering yearbooks changes from year to year. Please look for the AVSA magazine containing the show schedule and check the mailing address and entry deadline. It is not a pleasant task to return late entries.

To those responsible for mailing the entries, in order to ensure receipt by the chairman, enclose a self-addressed post card acknowledging receipt. This can be returned by the chairman and is much easier than making a trip to the post office to sign a receipt. Also, make sure the postage is correct. Normally it will run about \$1.05 to \$1.85 for three yearbooks, depending on their thickness.

Also, for those mailing the entries, carefully look over each entry, page by page, and have someone else check them also. Look for words that have run off the page, pages printed crooked, untidy alterations and corrections. Carelessness in this area can result in the unnecessary loss of points.

Those developing the book, review the score sheet (pages 74-77 of the AVSA Handbook). Where are points lost? The score sheet is specific in some instances, i.e., asterisk by AVSA mem-

bers names, public display and workshops, variety of programs, etc. Also be specific if you are having an AVSA standard judged show. The judges cannot assume that your "annual display" is an AVSA judged show. Clarify programs.

Thanks again for your entries and thanks also to the Louisiana Council judges who assisted in judging this year's entries.

AVSA Bylaws Committee Appointed

AVSA President Mary Boland has appointed a Bylaws Committee. The committee is beginning work immediately and would consider any input from the membership. Please write to the chairman or any of the members of this committee.

J. R. (Sundown) Pittman, Chairman, 12406 Alexandria Street, San Antonio, TX 78233, phone (512) 656-0128

Mrs. Stanley E. (Elinor) Skelton, Vice Chairman
Ralph E. Breden

A. Charles Bollar

Mrs. Donald (Janet) Riemer

Wanted

YOUR Boston Slides! If you have color slides of tours, workshops, banquets, meetings, registration or the beautiful show, PLEASE share them.

The slides, if selected, will be used at the 1991 AVSA Convention in Santa Clara, CA for the annual slide show.

Slides not selected, will be returned to the sender. Those slides utilized in the presentation can not be returned as they become part of the AVSA collection.

Please send your slides to:
Jim Whitaker
2085 Leeward Lane
Merritt Island, FL 32953



CANDY FOUNTAIN (Trailer)

Irene Fredette

AVSA Building Fund

Nell-Sue Tyson
2030 E. Amherst Avenue
Denver, CO 80210



When in the chemotherapy treatment room recently, with my friend, I saw this plaque and copied it. I felt that the contents were most

appropriate for our longed-for dream home venture, as we continue to climb the peaks toward realization.

Today

This is the beginning of a new day
God has given me this day to use as I will.

I can waste it or use it for good.
What I do today is important, because
I'm exchanging a day of my life for it.

When tomorrow comes,
this day will be gone forever,
leaving in its place something
that I have traded for it.
I want it to be gain, not loss;
good, not evil;
success, not failure;
in order that I shall not regret
the price I paid for it.

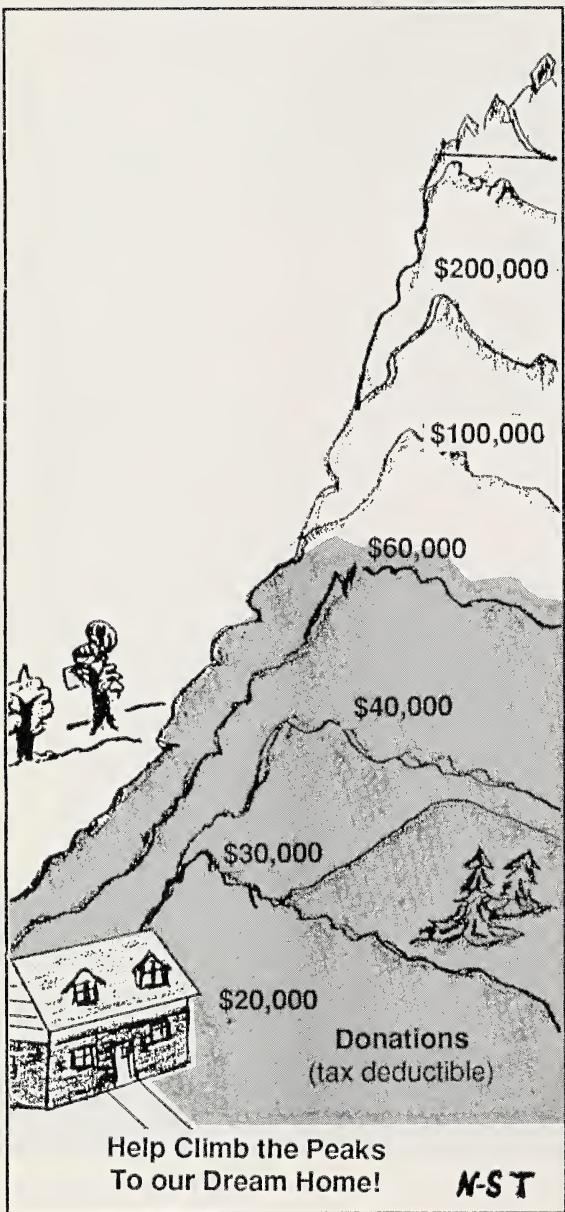
Unknown

How like our climb up the peaks! We have been climbing with steady progress, making gain—not loss. The struggle is good—not evil. Success does lie ahead. As we near reality, I am sure none of us will regret the price we have paid for it.

Donations received from January 26 through February 25, 1990

February, 1990

Brazos Valley AVC, TX in memory of Betty McIntyre	\$25.00
First Austin AVS, TX in memory of Mrs. R. L. (Willie) Pritchett, charter member	25.00
First Austin AVS, TX in lieu of speaker's fee for Gerri Goins	64.00
Don L. Thornburg, CA	15.00
Mr. and Mrs. Wilson R. Hart, NY in memory of Raymond Dooley	10.00
Hi Hopes VC of South Atlanta, GA in memory of Gertie O. Davis	15.00
Marilyn Goldstein, Marjorie Shurette and Jennifer Keilum, FL in memory of Julia Fladt	30.00



Mrs. Charles J. Erny, NY	11.50
AVSA Judges Council, Ontario, Canada in memory of Raymond Dooley	20.00
Saint Paulia Society, MO	10.00
Hudson Highlands AVS, NY in memory of Raymond Dooley	25.00
Diablo Valley AV Growers, CA	35.00
Mid-County Saint Paulians, TX in memory of R. J. Lawrence, father of Nancy Lawrence	25.00
Sweet Vi-O-Lets, TX in memory of Ray Lange, good friend and an asset to AVSA	120.00

Total for the month - 430.50

TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS - \$60,258.72

Contributions received from February 26 through March 25, 1990

March, 1990	
"Happiness Is" AVS, CO	\$10.00
Don L. Thornburg, CA	15.00
Metropolitan Regional Council of AV Judges, NY in memory of Raymond Dooley, a much admired friend	25.00
Bergen County AVS, NJ in lieu of speaker's fee to Frank Senna	25.00
Florence DiLiberti, NJ in appreciation of pleasures from African violets since first culture lesson from Lizeta Hamilton	25.00
First AVS of Wichita Falls, TX in memory of Ray Lange	25.00
Baltimore AVC, MD	100.00
The Tidewater AVS, VA in memory of dearly beloved member, Paul (Joe) Bratton	25.00
Ann M. Slocomb, NY in memory of my pal, Ruth Carey	25.00
Marilyn Goldstein, FL	150.00
Elynore (Ellie) Bogin, NY in memory of Ray Dooley, Julia Fladt and Bert Romeril	30.00
Irene Merrell, WI in lieu of program to Day Lilies Garden Club of Mukwonago	20.00
Jane Rexilius, TX in lieu of speaker's fee on Container Gardens to NASA Area AVS	30.00
New Jersey Council of AV Judges, NJ \$25 in memory of a great friend, Ray Dooley; \$50 in lieu of speaker's fee to Ellie Bogin, given in memory of her husband, Sidney	75.00
Long Island AVS, NY club donation of \$50 in memory of Frederick Oswald; Membership donation of \$35 in memory of Frederick Oswald	85.00
Stampede City AVS, Calgary, Alberta	50.00
Silvermine AVS, CT in lieu of speaker's fee to Edna Rourke and Roger Wheeler	20.00

Celia L. Schafer, IA in lieu of speaker's fee to Davenport Women's Club - Garden Dept.	10.00
Columbia AVC, SC in memory of Mrs. Percival Dixon and Mr. Homer Pierce	50.00

Total for the month - \$795.00

TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS - \$61,053.72



Best In Show at a recent Sundowners (LA) AVS show, "Raisin Violets," was Pensie Orchid," grown by Sophie Cole.

Attention: All Affiliates and Judges New Chairmen Appointed

Irene Merrell, Affiliate Chairman
W. 283 Hillendale Drive
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

Bill Foster, Shows & Judges Chairman
3610 Gray Drive
Mesquite, TX 75150



PRETTY PINK - Barbara Corbett
FAIRY FOUNTAINS - Lois Hughes

LAKESHORE (IL) AVS
photos by Bob Hassenauer, Glenview, IL



A Family Portrait

Geogene Albrecht
101 Oak Heights Drive
Oakdale, PA 15071

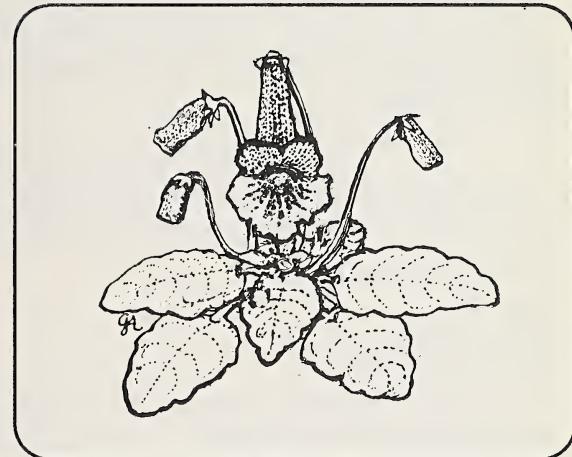


If you could grow just one kind of other gesneriad, what would it be? Judging from popular opinion and the number of entries shown, the miniature sinningias would win hands down. If given consistent care, they bloom continuously. Miniatures can be divided into two sizes, the very tiniest are the *pusilla* types having a leaf span of one to three inches, and those sizes which span three to six inches. Growth habit is compact rosette except for the plants like *Sinningia 'Tinkerbells'* which produce a taller, shrub-like growth. With the exception of the *pusilla* types, should foliage reach upward instead of growing flat, light is insufficient.

Be extremely careful not to break vegetation from the tuber or stem. Although the older, multi-crowned plants may need a "hair cut" with cuticle scissors, do not remove more than one-fourth of the foliage at one time. Clear all trimmings away from growth.

Miniatures under six inches are easy to grow in a terrarium but are perfectly content in 60% humidity. *S. 'Cindy'* (*S. concinna* x *S. eumorpha*) and her fertile kin, 'Cindy-ella,' have white, slipper-shaped, tubular blooms with bright, purple upper lobes and dark purple dots which form a fan on the lower lobes. Some other popular varieties having similar blooms are *S. 'Cindy Baby'*, 'Eileen,' 'Stripped Leo' and 'Glinda.' There are many more.

S. 'Dollbaby' (*S. pusilla* x *S. eumorpha*) has trumpet-shaped lavender-blue blooms. *S. 'Poupee'* (*S. 'White Sprite'* x *S. 'Dollbaby'*) is a smaller version that puts on a real show in terrarium culture. *S. 'Freckles'* is a little taller in growth, extremely floriferous when given lots of light and must be grown in container. The



S. 'Cindy-ella'

petioles are like fine wire and it is wise to remove old bloom before they decompose. Some of the shrub-like growths will produce tubers on the stems when planted very deeply in the soil. As they grow tall, pin them back to the soil surface and they will form roots, then tubers. *S. 'Wood nymph'* varieties must be grown in terrarium because *S. concinna* was a parent. These plants produce huge flowers that last a very long time. Never try to pull the old flower stem, cut them. They tend to be so strong that the whole tuber will lift or the leaves will separate from the tuber.

Here are a few of the white blooming varieties familiar to me. If you grow others, please, send your comments. We have already mentioned the tiniest white ones in another column, so let's focus on those having a red dot in the throat. These flowers are pristine, perky and long-lasting. *S. 'Little Venus'*, *S. 'Big Venus'*, *S. Venus*, *S. 'Venus de Milo'*, *S. 'April Snow'* and *S. 'Love Spot'* all have mostly white bloom,

although some may be covered with reddish hair which gives the illusion of pink.

S. 'Bob W.' is about as large as this size should grow. The blooms are velvety purple. S. 'Laura' is a very dark purple and seems to prefer a terrarium. S. 'Super Orange' has no equal, at least, not that I've grown. The reds are so vibrant. Try S. 'Super Red,' S. 'Ruby Red,' and S. 'Scarlet Sunset.' The "red" versions of S. 'Cindy' are S. 'Cherry Chips,' S. 'Cherry Doll' and S. 'Cherry Frosting.'

There are many good pink varieties, S. 'Maiden's Blush' and S. 'Pink Ice' have delicate, pale blooms. If you want a very shocking pink, try S. 'Mercury.'

SOURCES

The following list contains most of the commercial growers that sell gesneriads other than

saintpaulias. Many of them do have begonias, saintpaulia and other flowering plants. If you know of others, send them to me for publication. Please remember, gesneriads are a perishable commodity and no grower can project supply and demand. For these reasons, please give substitutes or second choices so that you will not be disappointed. Sinningias and other gesneriads do not reproduce rapidly. Seeds may or may not produce the same variety, therefore, vegetative reproduction is slow for some of the newer plants. Another thing that may help you acquire wanted plants is to send a list of the plants you have and tell the seller what you want. Let him decide on a similar plant. Commercial growers want to meet your demands. They want repeat customers. Tell them you saw their name in the African Violet Magazine.

ALBERT G. KRIEGER

Dept AV
1063 Cranbrook Dr.
Jackson, MI 49201

Streptocarpus plants and cuttings, new, old and species.

(517) 782-1158
List - \$1.00

BELISLE'S VIOLET HOUSE

P. O. Box 111
Radisson, WI 54867-0111

Wide range of Gesneriads, rare and unusual. Own sinningias.

(715) 945-2687
Catalog - \$1.00
Refundable on first order

BUELL'S GREENHOUSES, INC.

11 Weeks Rd.
P. O. Box 218G9
Eastford, CT 06242

Gloxinias, achimenes, episcias, others.

(203) 974-0623
1978 listing - 25¢ plus long
SASE with 45¢ postage
1989 addenda send SASE (25¢)

FISCHER GREENHOUSES

Blackman Avenue and Poplar Rd.
Bargaintown (Linwood), NJ 08221

Color catalog. Popular, select representation. Alsobia, columnea, episcia, streptocarpus, etc.

(609) 927-3399
Catalog - 50¢

HOME-GROWN GESNERIADS

David and Colleen Turley
P. O. Box 8417

Fredericksburg, VA 22404

Extensive listing, especially species and latest hybrids.

Catalog \$2.00

JAN'S FLOWER HOUSE

10652 Rt. 97
Waterford, PA 16441

100 varieties of episcia.

(814) 796-4159
List - 2 stamps

JEANNETTE'S JESNERIADS

Dept AV
2173 Leslie St.
Terrytown, LA 70056

(504) 393-6977
List - 50¢

KARLEEN'S ACHIMENES	(912) 242-1368
1407 W. Magnolia	List - \$1.50
Valdosta, GA 31601-4235	
250 varieties of achimenes.	
KARTUZ GREENHOUSES	(619) 941-3613
Dept. AV	Catalog - \$2.00
1408 Sunset Dr.	
Vista, CA 92083	
<i>Catalog has culture guide. New releases, rare gesneriads.</i>	
LAURAY OF SALISBURY	(203) 435-2263
432 Undermountain Rd.	Catalog - \$2.00
Salisbury, CT 06068	
<i>Good variety of gesneriads in general.</i>	
LOGEE'S GREENHOUSES	(203) 774-8038
55 North St.	Catalog - \$3.00
Danielson, CT 06239	Refundable with first order
<i>Color catalog. Columnea, aeschynanthus, nematanthus, streptocarpus, others.</i>	
LORINE H. FRIEDRICH	(713) 448-8976
9130 Glenbury	List - \$1.00
Houston, TX 77037	
<i>Episcias, gloxinias, sinningias, more.</i>	
LYNDON LYON GREENHOUSES, INC.	(315) 429-8291
14 Mutchler St. Dept. AV	Catalog - \$1.00
Dolgeville, NY 13329	
<i>Aeschynanthus, columnea, dwarf gloxinia, episcia, more.</i>	
MCKINNEY'S GLASSHOUSE	(316) 686-9438
89 Mission Rd.	List - \$1.50
Eastborough, KS 67207	
<i>Episcias a specialty.</i>	
MIGHTY MINIS	(916) 421-7284
7318 Sahara Ct.	List - \$1.00
Sacramento, CA 95828	
<i>Episcia, sinningias, columnea, aeschynanthus, etc.</i>	
PLEASANT HILL AFRICAN VIOLETS	(409) 836-9736 (evenings)
Route 1, Box 73	Catalog - \$1.00
Brenham, TX 77833	
<i>Aeschynanthus, columnea, episcia, nematanthus.</i>	
TIKI NURSERY	(704) 628-2212
P. O. Box 187	Catalog - \$2.00
Fairview, NC 28730	
<i>Aeschynanthus, columnea, sinningia, streptocarpus.</i>	
ZACA VISTA NURSERY	(805) 688-2585
1190 Alamo Pintado Rd.	AV catalog - \$1.00
Solvang, CA 93463	
<i>Cuttings by mail of Aeschynanthus, columnea, nematanthus, streptocarpus, more. Hanging baskets at greenhouses.</i>	Gesneriad listing for long SASE

Please adjust the amounts as postage increases. Remember to send a SASE to me if you expect an answer to correspondence.

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR USE OF AVSA LIBRARY MATERIALS

Library materials are available for use by AVSA members and affiliates in good standing, subject to the following rules and regulations:

REQUEST FOR MATERIALS

Send requests to the AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, Texas 77704. Use the order form sent to you, and include check, payable to AVSA, in the appropriate amount. Additional order forms are available in this office, upon request.

SLIDE PROGRAMS

1. Make request for reservation three (3) months in advance of date desired, with the following information:

Name and address of person to whom slide program is to be mailed.

Name of the affiliate organization, if program is to be shown to an organization.

Give first, second, and third choices of slide programs for each reservation date.

2. Slide programs are shipped using a special shipping box. Please use the special box to return the slide program to the AVSA Office, immediately after scheduled reserved date. Return by UPS or First Class Mail only. For First Class, we request that you insure the program for \$50.00. If you use UPS, the package is automatically insured for \$100.00. For members in other countries: Please return programs postpaid by the safest and most expeditious postal means available. A \$5.00 PENALTY WILL BE ASSESSED FOR ANY SLIDE PROGRAM NOT POSTMARKED WITHIN FOUR (4) DAYS AFTER SCHEDULED RESERVED DATE. Return programs to:

AVSA Office
2363 McFaddin
Beaumont, Texas 77702

3. Special requests for two or more slide programs for the same date may be made and will be filled whenever possible, but such requests are not encouraged because of the great demand for slide programs and the limited numbers available.

4. Cost of slide program with cassette is

\$10.00; and cost of slide program without cassette is \$8.00. Only those slide programs in the descriptive list with a "(C)" after the titles have cassettes. Those programs may be reserved with or without the cassettes.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF SLIDE PROGRAMS

"AFRICAN VIOLET PESTS" (C) (52 slides) A short, succinct program by Dr. Charles L. Cole, with vivid illustrations of the common African violet pests.

"THE AFRICAN VIOLET PLANT" (77 slides) Learn to identify the variety of leaf types of the African violet, the diseases that affect the leaf, and the blossom colors and types with this program.

"AFRICAN VIOLETS, HOLLYWOOD STYLE" (C) (80 slides) The best of the winners at the 1985 Convention Show, "Let Us Entertain You," held in Los Angeles.

"AFRICAN VIOLETS IN ARTISTIC DESIGNS" (60 slides) A collection of arrangements and artistic plantings using a Madonna or other accessory to enhance the design or help express the mood or theme of a class. Most slides are blue ribbon winners from shows. An old, but good program. Not for the advanced designer.

"BOSTON'S NEW BEAUTIES" (C) (80 slides) A capsule version of the program compiled by J. R. "Sundown" Pittman at the Boston Convention. You'll enjoy seeing the very latest "specials" from our hybridizers and commercial growers.

"DESIGNS FROM OUR CHILDHOOD FANTASIES" (C) (64 slides) The beautiful design entries from the memorable AVSA Convention Show, "A Childhood Fantasy," held in Philadelphia in 1984. Includes many instructional comments.

"FANTASIA" (C) (99 slides) The 1985/1986 introductions compiled by "Sundown" Pittman.

"THE FLORIDA EXPERIENCE" (C) (80 slides) The best of the 1987 convention/show

held in Orlando, in the beautiful sunshine state of Florida. You will really enjoy "experiencing" (or re-experiencing) the many lovely plants and designs which were on display in the immense showroom.

"FUTURE VIOLETS WITH A ROYAL FLAIR" (C) (80 slides) Compiled and narrated by our own J. R. "Sundown" Pittman, this program offers the very latest introductions from our hybridizers and commercial growers. We guarantee you will see some that will make it to your want-list.

"GESNERIAD FAVORITES" (C) (75 slides) A program donated to the AVSA Library by the Houston Gesneriad Society. It contains many beautiful plants, with excellent culture and propagation information.

"A GRAND REUNION" (C) (80 slides) From the big city of Dallas comes the best of the beautiful award-winning plants and designs which were exhibited at the 1988 convention/show.

"THE MAGIC SHOW" (C) (80 slides) The 1986/1987 "magical" varieties from our hybridizers and commercial growers, as compiled and narrated by Hortense's honey, "Sundown" Pittman.

"MEET THE FAMILY" (C) (60 slides) A vivid look at some of the other members of the gesneriad family, compiled and narrated by Margaret Waguespack of Harahan, LA. An informative program for those who want to broaden their growing horizons or for those who just want to "meet the family."

"MULTIPLYING SAINTPAULIAS" (65 slides) This program covers propagation by leaf cutting, division, seeds, and grafting. Slides show how to produce and plant seeds to the development of a small potted plant. Not for advanced growers.

"THE NEW ENGLAND SPIRIT" (C) (80 slides) A collection of the best of the 1990 convention and show held in Boston, in the Bay State of Massachusetts. Experience the best of beautiful award-winning plants and designs of the convention.

"NEW RAYS OF HOPE" (C) (80 slides) This program offers the newest introductions from our hybridizers and commercial growers. Compiled and narrated by Ray "Sundown"

Pittman, this program offers many "must have" plants for your wish list.

"ORANGE BLOSSOM SPECIALS" (C) (80 slides) The *very latest* "specials" from our hybridizers and commercial growers, as compiled and narrated by "Sundown" Pittman, Hortense's "silent" partner. Perfect for making up your "wish" list.

"PHILLY FANTASY" (C) (80 slides) Prize winning African violets and related plants in all their glory at the 1984 AVSA Convention Show in Philadelphia. No design entries are included, but may be viewed in the slide program, "DESIGNS FROM OUR CHILDHOOD FANTASIES."

"THE PITTMAN WAY OF GROWING VIOLETS" (C) (84 slides) A step-by-step visual program on growing and grooming miniature and semiminiature African violets, by one of our most notable hybridizers, Hortense Pittman. You'll learn a lot and see many of Hortense's Honeys in this program.

"POINTERS IN JUDGING" (C) (74 slides) A revised version of the popular workshop program for judges and exhibitors on evaluating specimen plants using the current issue of the AVSA Handbook.

"A ROYAL TREAT" (C) (80 slides) A collection of the best of beautiful award-winning plants and designs which were exhibited at the 1989 Convention and Show in Kansas City, MO. This is truly a "Royal Treat."

"THE SAINTPAULIA SPECIES" (79 slides) A comprehensive, educational workshop type program not intended solely for entertainment. Very thorough and technical. Neva Anderson contributed several years of work to produce the best program of its kind.

"SET THE SCENE WITH DESIGNS" (C) (60 slides) A stunning collection of the best designs entered in the 1985 Los Angeles Convention Show. Not a "how-to" program, but one that will entertain and stimulate the viewer with designs of distinction, creativity, and originality.

"SHOW OFF YOUR VIOLETS" (70 slides) A program showing many ways to use African violets for home decoration, party favors, and table arrangements.

"STARS OF THE NORTH" (C) (80 slides)

The beautiful award winners at the 1986 convention show held in St. Paul, MN. You'll really "see stars" when viewing this one.

"VIOLET TROUBLES" (63 slides) Pests, diseases, and results of poor culture are discussed in this program. An old but good basic program.

"VIOLETS AND MORE VIOLETS" (79 slides) A basic lesson for beginners showing how to set leaves, separate baby plants from the mother leaf, and divide a multiple crown plant. Also includes suggestions on potting, repotting a large plant, and way to treat a necky plant. Not for advanced growers.

"WHAT'S NEW FOR '84-'85?" (C) (99 slides) The best of the 1984/1985 introductions, compiled by "Sundown" Pittman.

PACKETS

1. Packets are loaned for a period of one month, as available.

2. Requests for two or more packets will be filled whenever possible.

3. Packets must be returned postpaid by FIRST, THIRD, or FOURTH CLASS MAIL.

4. Cost of each packet is \$2.00, and must be paid by check to AVSA at time of request.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF PACKETS

JUST FOR FUN PACKET: "A Violet Carol" Christmas skit in one act. A fun way to celebrate the holidays with a skit performed by your club members. This is an original skit written by Kent Stork of Kent's Flowers, Arlington, NE, and donated to the AVSA Library.

NEWSLETTER/MAGAZINE PACKET: This packet contains one sample from each entry exhibited at convention. Editors who wish to browse through other publications are urged to order this packet. Or, anyone desiring to start a newsletter or magazine would find this packet helpful. Includes a point score sheet on how the publications are judged.

PROGRAM PLANNING PACKET: Suggestions to help a program chairman or committee plan the programs for a club's activities.

SHOW SCHEDULES PACKET: Show schedules of African violet shows from different sections of the country. Excellent for new ideas, and those clubs planning their first shows.

YEARBOOK COLLECTION PACKET: This

packet contains 12 yearbooks from various affiliate clubs. It contains one or more of the top prize winners from recent AVSA convention competition. Especially recommended for clubs producing their first yearbook, and for those interested in submitting their yearbooks for competition. Includes point score sheets on how the yearbooks were judged.



Suzanne Zimbardo, president of the Tucson AVS won Queen of Show with her plant, *Sapphire Halo*. She was also winner of the AVSA Collection. Photo by Frank Over.



Top award winners at a recent AV Societies of Greater Peoria (IL) show were Virgil Thomas and Marlon De Trempe. Virgil won best in show with *Rob's Blue Light* and Marlon won Best Collection with *Coral Kiss*, *Optimara New Mexico* and *Optimara Sequoia*. The theme for the show was "School Days ... Violet ABCs."

Registration Report

Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway
Hollywood, FL 33019



Reservations are good for a two year period and cost \$1.00. They may be renewed for one more two year period. Registrations cost \$5.00 unless you have paid for a reservation and it is still within the two year period. The cost is then \$4.00.

REGISTRATIONS

Ruby Cox - Bethany, MO

*Big Charlie - Large - Single/semidouble purple pansy with pink fantasy splashes. Variegated, dark green, quilted, serrated, glossy foliage, red reverse. #7294 - 2/20/90

*Big Dreamer - Large - Single/semidouble dark purple pansy. Variegated, dark green, quilted, glossy foliage, red reverse. #7295 - 2/20/90

*Blues Singer - Large - Double deep blue pansy. Variegated, dark green, pointed, quilted, longifolia leaves. #7296 - 2/20/90

*Fancy Mama - Large - Single dark purple star, pink fantasy. Variegated, dark green, pointed, quilted glossy foliage. #7297 - 2/20/90

*Happy Hillbilly - Large - Double rose pink star with hints of blue. Variegated, dark green, longifolia, pointed foliage. #7298 - 2/20/90

*Kann's Fran - Large - Single shades of pink star blossom. Variegated, dark green, quilted foliage, red reverse. #7299 - 2/20/90

*Mama's Magic - Standard - Double deep purple fantasy, pale pink splashes. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green, quilted, serrated glossy foliage. #7300 - 2/20/90

*Mama's Roses - Large - Double bright pink star. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green,

pointed, plain, glossy foliage, red reverse.
#7301 - 2/20/90

Eleanore Hull - Port Jefferson, NY

*Ellie Mae - Standard - Double white multi-color with lavender markings. Medium green, quilted foliage. #7302 - 2/24/90

Irene Fredette - Hamden, CT

*Fredette's Easy Goer - Large - Semidouble red-violet star. Tommie Lou variegated plain foliage. #7303 - 3/1/90

Fredette's Meringue - Large - Semidouble ruffled white star. Medium green quilted foliage. #7304 - 3/1/90

Fredette's Summer Showers - Large - Semi-double/double ruffled pink fantasy with random violet streaks, lighter edge. Dark green, plain foliage, red reverse. #7305 - 3/1/90

*Fredette's Sweet Jenny - Standard - Double fringed white star with lavender-rose edge. Dark green plain foliage. #7306 - 3/1/90

Charles Cohen - Baltimore, MD

*Worth It - Standard - Single dark purple stripe chimera, light purple background. Medium green, plain, ovate foliage, red reverse. #7307 - 3/2/90

Sidney & Paul Sorano - Dolgeville, NY

*Angel Fluff - Standard - Double ruffled white star. Medium green plain, ovate foliage. #7308 - 3/2/90

*Crimson Moon - Standard - Semidouble crimson star with random white petal edges. Medium green plain, scalloped foliage. #7309 - 3/2/90

- ***Devil Blues** - Standard - Semidouble medium blue star. Medium green plain foliage. #7310 - 3/2/90
- ***Elfin Honey** - Semiminiature - Double green and pale pink star. Medium green, pointed, quilted foliage. #7311 - 3/2/90
- ***Fire Mountain** - Large - Double red star with geneva edge. Dark green plain foliage, red reverse. #7312 - 3/2/90
- ***Flirtatious Pink** - Standard - Semidouble lightly ruffled medium pink pansy with mauve upper petal tips. Medium green quilted foliage. #7313 - 3/2/90
- ***Irish Kiss** - Standard - Semidouble/double wavy white pansy, randomly tipped green upper petals. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, plain foliage. #7314 - 3/2/90
- ***Irish Pearl** - Semiminiature - Double medium pink star, some green. Dark green plain foliage, red reverse. #7315 - 3/2/90
- ***Lady Heartbreaker** - Standard - Semidouble mauve-fuchsia two tone pansies. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, quilted, ovate foliage. #7316 - 3/2/90
- ***Lil Pink Cameo** - Semiminiature - Double light pink pansy. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green, plain, ovate foliage. #7317 - 3/2/90
- ***Lime Frost** - Large - Double white ruffled pansies, green petal edges. Medium green, lightly ruffled, plain foliage. #7318 - 3/2/90
- ***New York Glitter** - Large - Semidouble very pale pinkish lavender wavy pansy, light and dark orchid fantasy, some dark orchid tips on upper petals. Medium green plain foliage. #7319 - 3/2/90
- ***Pink Moon** - Standard - Semidouble/double light pink star. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green, plain foliage. #7320 - 3/2/90
- ***Pink Obsession** - Large - Semidouble light pink star. Variegated, pointed, plain foliage. #7321 - 3/2/90
- ***Pixie Elf** - Miniature - Double white stars, random green tips. Variegated, medium green pointed, plain foliage. #7322 - 3/2/90
- ***Pixie Treasure** - Semiminiature - Double medium pink stars. Variegated pointed, plain foliage. #7323 - 3/2/90
- ***Purrfect Love** - Large - Semidouble light mauve pink stars with dark mauve tips. Variegated, dark green, wavy foliage.
- #7324 3/2/90
- ***Ramblin Angel** - Semiminiature trailer - Double pink star. Medium green plain foliage. #7325 3/2/90
- ***Ramblin Magic** - Semiminiature trailer - Double pink pansy, blue fantasy. Dark green ovate foliage. #7326 3/2/90
- ***Ramblin Moonbeam** - Semiminiature trailer - Double white pansy. Medium green pointed, plain foliage. #7327 - 3/2/90
- ***Ramblin Stardust** - Semiminiature trailer - Double light blue pansy. Dark green plain foliage. #7328 - 3/2/90
- ***Rose Cherub** - Semiminiature - Semidouble rose pink wavy star, geneva edge. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, wavy, pointed, plain foliage. #7329 - 3/2/90
- Sea Drift** - Standard - Double wavy medium blue star, geneva edge. Medium green, slightly wavy, pointed foliage. #7330 - 3/2/90
- ***Snowkissed Berry** - Standard - Double purplish-fuchsia pansy, geneva edge. Dark green, wavy, serrated edge foliage. #7331 - 3/2/90
- ***Snowkissed Rose** - Standard - Semidouble pinkish-fuchsia pansy, darker upper petals, geneva edge. Medium green, pointed, plain foliage, red reverse. #7332 - 3/2/90
- ***Snuggles Blue Pearl** - Semiminiature - Semidouble/double light cornflower blue pansy. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green, quilted, ovate foliage. #7333 - 3/2/90
- ***Snuggles Snowbaby** - Semiminiature - Double white pansy. Variegated, dark green plain, ovate foliage, red reverse. #7334 - 3/2/90
- ***Space Fantasy** - Standard - Single/semidouble medium blue pansy shape, pinkish lavender fantasy, lightly frilled petal edges. Medium/dark green foliage, red reverse. #7335 - 3/2/90
- ***Velvet Frost** - Standard - Semidouble purple star, geneva edge. Medium green plain red backed foliage. #7336 - 3/2/90
- ***Wind Chimes** - Standard - Double wavy white multicolor pansies mottled with medium blue. Medium green plain foliage. #7337 - 3/2/90

*Wine On Ice - Standard - Semidouble light wine stars, geneva edge. Variegated, dark green wavy foliage, red reverse. #7338 - 3/2/90

NAME RESERVATIONS

Leila Egenites - Bayside, NY

* Gossamer * Pride And Joy

REGISTRATION CORRECTIONS

*Rob's Silver Spook - Semiminiature - Semidouble white and light lavender. Crown variegated, medium green, pointed

foliage. #7174 - 8/29/89

*Rob's Vanilla Pink - Miniature - Semidouble deep creamy rose-pink pansy. Tommie Lou variegated, medium/dark green, pointed, serrated, heartshaped foliage. #7175 - 8/29/89

*Little A1 - Standard - Single dark blue with geneva edge. Variegated light green and white foliage.

*Little James - Semiminiature - Semidouble slightly fringed pink two tone with light lavender shading, geneva edge. Variegated foliage with light pink, yellow and white, red reverse. #6887 - 6/15/88



Five-day-old Michelle True, daughter of Greg and Sandi True of Benton City, WA is shown sunbathing with violets. At four days old, the Trues were told by their doctor that Michelle had jaundice and would have to put in the hospital and be placed under bilirubin lights for three days. Until they could get her to the hospital, they were told to place her in a bright window for a couple of hours to absorb the ultraviolet rays. It was a partly cloudy and chilly day, so they decided to put her under the grow lights, among their collection of over 3,000 violets. To receive the full spectrum of light, they also set up two incandescent lights near her. They protected her eyes with goggles, gave her lots of water and let her sunbathe for three hours. When she was returned to the hospital for the blood test, everyone was astounded to learn that the bilirubin count had dropped three points — enough to keep her at home. After several days of "sunbathing" treatments, Michelle's jaundice disappeared.

Affiliate 'appenings

Lyndall Owens
P. O. Box 288
Beaumont, TX 77704



GEORGIA STATE AV COUNCIL - "Violets - The Favorite Houseplant," Joan Cumpton & Laura Walker, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Ms Pretty Pink*, *Silver Brocade*, *L'Ambassadeur*, best in show, *Magnolia*, 2nd best in show, *L'Ambassadeur*, Treva McDaniel; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Magic*, *Ballet Marta*, *Wrangler's Dixie Celebration*, best trailer, *Dancin' Trail*, Lois Duvall; best design, "Decorate Victorian Porch," design, sweepstakes, Laura Walker; best miniature, *Pretty Girl*, Sarah Carson; best semi, *Crushed Velvet*, Jim Wright; best gesneriad, *Episcia Unpredictable Valley*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Jean Wright.

UNION COUNTY CHAPTER AVSA, NJ - "Violets Around the World," Gail Gray, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Optimara Little Sapphire*, *Optimara Rose Quartz*, *Optimara Little Apatite*, Muriel Lawrence; best in show, *Karisma*, best semi, *Bonn's Bluebird*, best trailer, *Snowy Trail*, Marjorie Crosby; 2nd best in show, *Wintry Rose*, Janet Riemer; best design, "Japanese Tea Garden," Marion Mossberg; best miniature, *Optimara Rose Quartz*, Walter Ott; best gesneriad, *Sinningia Speciosa Hybrid*, Faith Perriu.

FORT WORTH AVS, TX - "Violets on the Emerald Isle," Mrs. L. W. Chilcutt, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Pure Water*, *Tulsa Boy*, *Cinnamon Girl*, Mrs. E. H. Wilhite; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Cotton Bowl*, *Frances Young*, *Cinnamon Girl*, best in show, *Little Pro*, best trailer, *Rob's Sticky Wicket*, best semi, *Little Pro*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Kee Wee*, *Virginia Linson*; 2nd best in show, *Amazing Grace*, best miniature, *Rob's Starberry*, Mrs. Robert D. Early; best design, "Wearin' O' the Green," Craten Johnson.

THE CAPITAL CITY AVS, AL - "Special Days With Violets," Doris Till, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Granger's Wonderland*, *Makin Romance*, *Silver Seas*, best in show, *Granger's Wonderland*, 2nd best in show, *Mickey Mouse*, best miniature, *Mickey Mouse*, best semi, *Snuggles*, best trailer, *Pixie Blue*, sweepstakes (horticulture, 38 blue ribbons), Barbara Strock; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Granger's Wonderland*, *Makin Romance*, *Splendiferous*, best design, "Happy Times Remembered," Doris Till; best gesneriad, *Strep-Janus*, Elizabeth Fuller.

AVS OF GREATER TULSA, OK - "Violets and Memories," Mrs. Billie Kneale, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Janice Ann*, *Lela Marie*, *Bertha*, best in show, *Bertha*, 2nd best in show, *Surprise Party*, best miniature, *Everdina*, best semi, *Surprise Party*, Linda Bjorkman; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Apache Fire*, *Wrangler's Branding Time*, *The King*, best design, "Picture Perfect Memories," sweepstakes, Linda McGaha; best trailer, *Dancing Trail*, Dorothy Harris.

MOONLIGHT AVS, TX - "Our of Africa," Tracy Strackbein, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Precious Pink*, *Fun Run*, *Happy Teen*, best in show, *Precious Pink*, 2nd best in show, *Magnolia*, best semi, *Precious Pink*, Kyle Coleman; best design, "Jewels of Africa," best miniature, *Dawn Michelle*, best gesneriad, *Strep. Captain Blood*, *Mural Fort*; best trailer, *Redwood Trail*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Velma Lewis; sweepstakes (design), Tracy Strackbein.

ATCHAFALAYA VS OF AMERICA, LA - "Violets Tour Tinsel Town," Y. George Ramirez, Jr., chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Brazos Belle*, *Frosty Trail*, *Buckeye Trail*, best miniature, *Little Jayhawk*, best gesneriad, *Streptocarpus Seedling*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Martha Dyson; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Tiger*, *Wrangler's Snowfields*, *You Ole Smoothie*, 2nd best in show, *Wrangler's Snowfields*, George Ramirez; best in show, *Island Orchid*, best trailer, *Royal Blue Trailer*, Alice Marceaux; best design, "San Juan Capistrano," Yvonne Ozio; best semi, *Bogeyman*, Marilyn Simmons.

TUCSON AVS, AZ - "Precious Moments With Violets," Carolyn Anderson, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Dolloped Up*, *Diamond Eyes*, *Snuggles Clown*, best in show, *Sapphire Halo*, sweepstakes, Suzanne Zimbardo; 2nd best in show, *Angel Lace*, Dorothy Greer; best design, "Wedding Bells," Julie Martin; best gesneriad, *White Sprite*, Ruth Over.

SWEET VI-O-LETS, TX - "Violets Are Bear-y Special," Patricia Champagne, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Deano*, *Precious Pink*, *Magic Blue*, best in show, *Cheers*, best trailer, *Ballet Gumball*, best semi, *Cheers*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Cleopatra*, Patricia Champagne; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Wee Hummer*, *Tip Top*, *Taffy Joy*, best miniature, *Everdina*, sweepstakes (horticulture, 30 blue ribbons), Linda Bostwick; best design, "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," Laura Burr.

AVS OF FORT WALTON BEACH, FL - "Violets Celebrate the Seasons," Marcella Wright, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Texas Sunbonnet*, *Creole Royale*, *Frances Young*, Louise Jones; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Pay Dirt*, *Precious Pink*, *Ruffled Joy*, Kathy Jarvis; best in show, *Wee Bee*, best semi, *Wee Bee*, Geraldine Holmes; 2nd best in show, *Painted Sunrise*, Grady Holmes; best design, "Thanksgiving," sweepstakes (horticulture & design), Mildred Patrick; 2nd best design, Betty Cassell.

AV ASSN. OF GARDENERS, FL - "Treasures in Rhyme," Alice Davis, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Magic Trail*, *Adeara Trail*, *Teeny Bopper*, Barbara Robinson; best in show, *Cherokee Trail*, best trailer, *Cherokee Trail*, Diane Martens; 2nd best in show, *Little Princess*, best semi, *Little Princess*, best gesneriad, *Streptocarpus April*.

MORN, Alyce Droege; best miniature, *Rob's Magnetic Field*, Jim Boyer.

VIOLETS ON THE BAYOU, LA - "Violet Enchantment," Anaise LeBlanc, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Georgia Lover*, *Magnolia*, *Fredette's Moonflower*, best in show, *Georgia Lover*, 2nd best in show, *Autumn Lilac*, sweepstakes, *Phil & Pat Robichaux*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Pink Energy*, *My Wicked Ways*, *Omaha*, best semi, *Shutterbug*, *Barbara Freeman*; best design, *Belle Arcemont*; best trailer, *Trail-a-long*, *Emily Fertitta*; best miniature, *Dean's Kitten*, *Eva Folse*.

HEART OF DIXIE AVS, AL - "Violets for All Seasons," M. R. "Vince" Vincent, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Snow Rose*, *Fisher's Leone*, *Magnolia*, best in show, *Willowdene*, best design, best trailer, *Pixie Blue*, best miniature, *Optimara Little Diamond*, best semi, *Ruffled Joy*, best gesneriad, *Sinningia Mercury*, sweepstakes (horticulture, 79 blue ribbons), *Vince Vincent*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Wrangler's Spanish Cavalier*, *Nancy Reagan*, *Sweet Praline*, 2nd best in show, *Sweet Praline*, *Dorothy Strickland*.

TWIN CITIES AVS, IL - "Violets in the Land of Lincoln," Val Anderson, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Desert Dawn*, *Optimara Hawaii*, *Kiwi Dazzle*, 2nd best in show, *Desert Dawn*, *Jean Brooks*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Precious Pink*, *Snuggles*, *Snuggles Delight*, best design, "Lincoln Memorial Gardens," best trailer, *Pixie Blue*, best miniature, *Optimara Rose Quartz*, best semi, *Snuggles*, sweepstakes, *Martha Compton*; best in show, *Optimara St. Louis*, *Libby Watkins*; best gesneriad, *Strep. Athena*, *Donna Mann*.

SAN JOAQUIN AVS, CA - "Clowning Around With Violets," Susan Bastianelli & Joan Leonard, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Snow Rose*, *Lonesome Blues*, *Nob Hill*, best in show, *Snow Rose*, 2nd best in show, *Lonesome Blues*, best trailer, *Honey Trail*, best miniature, *Petite Jewel*, best semi, *Fun Run*, sweepstakes (horticulture), **Susan Bastianelli**; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Swiftly Thriller*, *Grandma's Zack*, *Frances Young*, *Gladys Cartwright*; best design, "Violets Take a High Dive," sweepstakes (design), best gesneriad, *Sinningia Piglet*, *Vera Parker*.

BLUFF CITY AVC, MS - "Violets at the Olde Country Store," Olivette Yancey, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, *Lucky Lass*, *Mae's A Million*, *Rob's Soliloquy*, 2nd best in show, *Little Katherine*, best trailer, *Purple Cloudburst*, best miniature, *Little Katherine*, best semi, *Precious Pink*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *George McDonald*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Something Special*, *Suncoast Paisley Print*, *Mary Craig*, best design, "Antiques," best gesneriad, *Streptocarpus Athena*, sweepstakes (design), *Mary Loewer*; best in show, *Willodene*, *Olivette Yancey*.

MILWAUKEE AVS, WI - "A House Full of Violets," Dorothy Fossum & Joan Wilson, cochairmen. Winners: Best in show, *Confusa*, best gesneriad, *Streptocarpus Lil Brother*, best design, *Joan Wilson*; 2nd best in show and best semi, *Cande*, best miniature, *Fairy Tales*, *Mickey Eberle*; best trailer, *Teeny Bopper*, sweepstakes, *Marie Maas*.

UNPREDICTABLE AVS, MO - "Violets Take Center Stage," Max Wooderson, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Pathfinder*, *Lady Baltimore*, *Lullaby*, 2nd best in show, *Pathfinder*, *Beulah Cupito*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Painted Sunrise*, *Christine*, *Mary Craig*, best in

show, *Black Jack*, best design, "Let The Curtain Fall," best semi, *Florie*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Sue Hill*; best trailer, *High Rise Trail*, *Katie Davison*; best miniature, *Optimara Little Amethyst*, *Charlotte Livingston*; best gesneriad, *Streptocarpus Janus*, sweepstakes (design), *Linda Golubski*.

METROPOLITAN ST. LOUIS AV COUNCIL, MO - "Violets Go To The Movies," Fran Russom, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Rob's Pinky Winky*, *Rob's Whimsical*, *Happy Teen*, best in show, *Rob's Sticky Wicket*, sweepstakes (horticulture, 45 blue ribbons), *Ardath Miller*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Easter Trinket*, *Hot Jazz*, *Snuggles Little Dreamer*, 2nd best in show, *Just Maybe*, best design, "All That Jazz," best miniature, *Just Maybe*, sweepstakes (design, 6 blue ribbons), *Fran Russom*; best gesneriad, *Episcia Pink Brocade*, *Hazel Reitz*; best AVSA commercial collection, *Grandma's Zack*, *Private Stock*, *Autumn Fancy*, *Katsuko Nadeau*; 2nd best commercial collection, *Oklahoma*, *Angel Fire*, *Brazos Blue*, *Judy Williams*.

AVS OF MINNESOTA - "Spring Is In The Air," Palma Trapp, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Magic Blue*, *Little Katherine*, *Little Pro*, 2nd best AVSA collection, *Timid Teen*, *Rob's Romancer*, *Wee Dear*, best miniature, *Timid Teen*, *Barbara Wohlfeld*; best in show, *Anna Kreek*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Ken Rein*; best design, "March Winds," sweepstakes (design), *Donna Tobin*; best trailer, *NSC Trail*, *Delores Harrington*; best gesneriad, *Streptocarpus Ulysses*, *Opal Hunter*.

TAMPA AVS, FL - "Violets Are Forever," Jo Anne Martinez, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Alpha Charlie*, *Granger's Wonderland*, *Sapphire Halo*, best in show, *Granger's Wonderland*, *Walter Spangler*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Precious Pink*, *Sugar Doll*, *Lavender Kisses*, *Jo Anne Martinez*; 2nd best in show, *Foxwood Trail*, best trailer, *Foxwood Trail*, *Glenda Spangler*; best design, "Look to the Future," *Doreen Zambito*; best miniature, *Timid Teen*, *Glenn Shelton*; best semi, *Swing Along*, *Mercedes Williams*; best gesneriad, *E. Strawberry*, *Barbara Matthews*; sweepstakes, *Mary Lou Harden*.

SPRINGFIELD AVS, OH - "Violets are a Work of Art," Anne Thomas & Ann Miller, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Something Special*, *Coral Kiss*, *Minde Brooke*, best in show, *Cairo Cutie*, *Anne Thomas*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Lela Marie*, *Greg*, *Omaha*, *Sam Carnell, Jr.*; 2nd best in show, *Redland's Pride*, best design, "The Dance," best semi, *Rare Rose*, sweepstakes, *Ann Miller*; best trailer, *Ramblin Rose*, *Mildred Carnell*; best miniature, *Petite Jewel*, *Betty Mals*; best gesneriad, *Little Brother*, *Florence Sarton*.

NEW YORK AVS - "Violets in the Marketplace," Cynthia Collins, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Ballet Marta*, *Roundabout*, *Ms. Pretty Pink*, best in show, *Ms. Pretty Pink*, 2nd best in show, *Ballet Marta*, *Henrikas Januskevicius*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Harbor Blue*, *Pink Energy*, *Something Special*, best miniature, *Mickey Mouse*, best semi, *Surprise Party*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Joseph Palaonia*; best design, "Seventh Avenue Garment Center," *Isabelle Gronert*; best trailer, *Fancy Trail*, *Leila Egenites*; best gesneriad, *Smithiantha Little One*, *Bob Baker*; sweepstakes (design), *Paula McDonald*.

GREEN THUMB AVS, AR - "Around the World With

Violets," Tracie Williams & Jane Land, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Marshland*, *Magnolia*, *Optimara New Mexico*, 2nd best in show, *Optimara New Mexico*, best design, "European Vacation," best semi, *Magic Blue*, sweepstakes (design & horticulture), *Ruby Pope*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Optimara Manitoba*, *Tensie*, *Crystallaire*, Anna Mae Buckle; best in show, *Rob's Sticky Wicket*, best trailer, *Rob's Sticky Wicket*, best miniature, *Mickey Mouse*, Jane Land; best gesneriad, *Moonbeam Strep*, Donita Shreve.

QUAD CITIES AVS, IA - "Violets in the 90s," Jackie Jones, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Splendiferous*, *Dumplin*, *Optimara Molokai*, 2nd best in show, *Splendiferous*, best trailer, *Rob's Sticky Wicket*, best miniature, *Mickey Mouse*, best semi, *Snuggles*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Celia Schafer*; best in show, *Glitterstar*, Chris Hansen; best design, "Far Out," best gesneriad, *Streptocarpus Hybrid*, Carol Boyd; sweepstakes (design), Jackie Jones.

AVS OF LOWER BUCKS COUNTY, PA - "Come Say G'Day," Betty and Jack Callahan, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Happy Cricket*, *Cinders*, *Grandma's Zack*, best in show, *Happy Cricket*, 2nd best in show, *Indian Corn*, best trailer, *Indian Trail*, best gesneriad, *E. Pink Brocade*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Bill Lyons; 2nd best AVSA collection, *The King*, *Ballet Marta*, *Grandma's Zack*, Marion Allen; best design, "The Wonder Down Under," sweepstakes (design), Carolyn Shaw; best miniature, *Wichita Baby*, Sandy Smith; best semi, *Snuggles*, Betty Callahan.

THE DELAWARE AVS - "Violets in the Springtime," Carol F. Moody, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Nortex's Sunkist Haven*, *Fogbound by Kent*, *French Lilac*, best in show, *Picasso*, 2nd best in show, *Nortex's Sunkist Haven*, best miniature, *Wee Hummer*, best semi, *Baby Pink*, best gesneriad, *Columnea Early Bird*, sweepstakes (horticulture & design), *Bessie Pyle*; best design, *Beryl Wood*; best trailer, *Pixie Blue*, Elizabeth S. Benke.

AVS OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS - "Showers of Violets," Anna Jean Landgren, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Magic Blue*, *Fun Run*, *Copper Cat*, sweepstakes, Anna Jean Landgren; best in show, *Ramblin Silver*, 2nd best in show, *Sea Spray*, best trailer, *Ramblin Silver*, Adelle Johnson; best design, "Spring Fancy," Millie Aske; best miniature, *Penny*, Karen Gantori; best gesneriad, *Silver Skies*, Barbara Goodsell.

NITE BLOOMERS AVS, CA - "Holiday With Violets," Ilene Rhodas, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Little James*, *California Cutie*, *Party Lace*, best in show, *Party Lace*, best miniature, *Laurette*, best semi, *Party Lace*, best design, "USA 4th of July," sweepstakes (horticulture & design), *Cathy Cornibe*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Something Special*, *High Tide*, *Maverick's Blue Grass Music*, 2nd best in show, *Nortex's Razzmataz Haven*, Dorothy Gawienowski; best trailer, *Mission City*, best gesneriad, E. Cleopatra, Patt Harris.

LAST FRONTIER AVS, AK - "Violets Go Country," Ellen Izzi, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Bright Honey*, *Precious Pink*, *Rob's Quixotic Lad*, best in show, *Adeara*, 2nd best in show, *Boca Grande*, best trailer, *Adeara*, best miniature, *Mickey Mouse* sweepstakes (horticulture), Jean Rients; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Bright Honey*, *Wee Bee*, *Happy Teen*, best design, "A Thimble Full of Violets,"

best semi (tie), *Happy Teen*, sweepstakes (design), Vera Hurd; best gesneriad, *S. Amaniensis*, Dodie Nelson.

DES MOINES EVENING AVC, IA - Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Pay Dirt*, *Little Pro*, *Top Most*, *Marie Istrap*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Ness's Shirley Delight*, *Ness's Crimson Kiss*, *Phantom Flash*, 2nd best in show, *Foxwood Trail*, best trailer, *Foxwood Trail*, *Kathy Mathews*; best in show, *Devil May Care*, *Deb Oilmana*; best semi, *Pay Dirt*, best miniature, *Optimara Rose Quartz*, best design, "Falling Snow," sweepstakes (horticulture & design, 28 blue ribbons in design), Jan Tyler; best gesneriad, *Lipstick Vine*, Sine Ollsen; best novice, *Tattle Trail*, Muriel Brill.

CINCINNATI AVS, OH - "Festival of Violets," Marge Burson, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Royal Grace*, *Mary Alice*, *Wonderland*, Helen Chambers; best in show, *Lela Marie*, *Sharon Holtman*; best design, "Festive Affair," Gayle Lehman; best trailer, *Lambs Ear*, best semi, *Party Lace*, Marge Burson; best miniature, *Taffy*, Alice Watson; best gesneriad, *Episcia Pink Brocade*, Marge Slye.

AVS OF ALBANY & CAPITAL DISTRICT AVS, NY - "Violets in the Court of King Arthur," Edward M. Perras, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Rob's April Storm*, *Precious Pink*, *Rob's Megan Lynn*, best in show, *Bea's Honey*, best trailer, *Snowy Trail*, sweepstakes, Mrs. Helen Gifford; 2nd best AVSA collection, *China Pink*, *Optimara Ontario*, *Nortex's Sunkist Haven*, best miniature, *Optimara Little Apatite*, Esther Mason; best design, "Excalibur," Florence Zabinski; best semi, *Little Pro*, Glenn Phelps; best gesneriad, *Strep. Freckles*, George Rodenhausen.

CEN-TEX RAINBOW AVS, TX - "Fiesta Ole," Maxine Garlick & Neva Moten, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Phantom Flash*, *Happy Cricket*, *Astral Peace*, best in show, *Phantom Flash*, 2nd best in show, *Happy Cricket*, best trailer, *S. Pendula*, Sheri DeLoach; best design, "Un Jardin Pequin's," best gesneriad, *E. Dee Wee*, sweepstakes (design), Maxine Garlick; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Happy Cricket*, *Wrangler's Dixie Celebration*, *Wrangler's Brian Song*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Jo Anne Rogers; best miniature, *Optimara Blue Ice*, Joy Dale Smith; best semi, *Misty Morn*, Janice Davidson.

AVS OF GREATER NEW YORK, INC. - "Violets and Lovers," Kay Rotando, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Nanuka*, *Harbor Blue*, *Old Dominion Sparkler*, best semi, *Rob's Megan Lynn*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Temptation*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Marcy Koester; best in show, *Lady Diana*, 2nd best in show, *Painted Sunrise*, *Rose Ghossn*; best trailer, *Rob's Sticky Wicket*, sweepstakes (design), Kay Rotando; best miniature, *Alais*, Kim Campbell.

NASA AREA AVS, TX - "Adventures In Space With Violets," John Gonzales, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Fickle Flirt*, *Kathe Denise*, *Pink Energy*, Lisa Holmes; best in show, *Grandma's Zack*, 2nd best in show, *Splendiferous*, best trailer, *Sundown Trail*, best miniature, *Rob's Lilliputan*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Verna Lawrence; best design, Pat Gonzales; best semi, *Crushed Velvet*, Onalee McEwen; best gesneriad, *Episcia Kee Wee*, James Bradberry; sweepstakes (design), John Gonzales.

AVS OF GREATER PEORIA, IL - "School Days ... Violet ABCs," Terry Duchien, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Optimara New Mexico*, *Optimara Sequoia*, *Coral Kiss*, Marion De Trempe; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Engaged*, Barbara's Christie, *Optimara Molakai*, 2nd best in

show, *Optimara Molakai*, **Adrian Ernst**; best in show, *Rob's Blue Light*, best semi, *Rob's Blue Light*, **Virgil Thomas**; best design, "Lunch Bread," **Wilma Johnson**; best trailer (tie), *Perk Up*, best miniature, *Think Twice*, **Uchiak Khoo**; best trailer (tie), *Confetti*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Strawberry Patch*, sweepstakes, **Sandy Svob**.

THE AVS OF CANTON, OH - "Westward Ho - A Violeting We Go," Pearl L. Snyder, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Tiger*, *Devil May Care*, *Ballet Anna*, best design, "A Rodeo," **Cathy Black**; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Granger's Wonderland*, *Optimara Louisiana*, *Stardust Blue*, best in show, *Granger's Wonderland*, 2nd best in show, *Slightly Sassy*, sweepstakes (horticulture), **Pearl Snyder**; best semi, *Teen Dream*, **Jackie Muster**; best gesneriad, *Aeschynanthus Hildebrandii*, **Eileen Lott**; sweepstakes (design), **Louise Vdovich**.

AVS OF WESTERN NEW YORK - "Violet Holiday," Ralph Robinson, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection (commercial), *Magnolia*, *Majestic*, *Harbor Blue*, best in show, *Harbor Blue*, best miniature, *Rob's Shadow Magic*, best gesneriad, *Streptocarpus Black Magic*, **Ralph Robinson**; 2nd best AVSA collection (commercial), *Coralette*, *L'Ambassadeur*, *Hush Blue*, 2nd best in show, *Blackjack*, **Vikki Davis**; best design, "The Great Outdoors," best trailer, *Teeny Bopper*, **Paul Kroll**; best AVSA collection (amateur), *Rob's Temptress*, *Rob's Crazy Daze*, *Snuggles*, **Shirley Sampson**.



At a recent San Diego (CA) Daytime AVS show, Ruth Graham won Best In Show with *Precious Pink*.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

We would like to take this time to thank you for sending us the lovely brochures and various educational materials about the African Violet Society and culture of the plants. Our booth was a success and we enjoyed the use of African violets as no one else displayed them in the entire show.

We plan to have our film developed and send some photos to you later. We even thought we'd submit a story about our horticultural therapy program at The Menninger Foundation.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Shapiro, H.T.R.
The Menninger Clinic
Topeka, KS



Frances Haynes, winner of the AVSA Best Collection Award, is shown holding *Something Special* from the collection that also included *Grape Slush* and *Illini Peace*, at a recent San Diego (CA) Daytime AVS show.

Foliar Mealybugs Which May Attack African Violets

Dr. Charles L. Cole
Extension Entomologist

Mealybugs are common pests of many ornamental trees, shrubs, and foliage plants. They occur out of doors during warm weather and in the home and greenhouse throughout the year. More than 280 species of mealybugs have been identified in the United States and Canada.

Description

Mealybugs are flattened and oval in shape. They range in size from 0.5 to 6.0 mm in length, depending upon species. Although they are distinctly segmented they have no clear definition between their head, thorax and abdomen. Mealybugs also have short spines along the lateral margins and tail end of their body. The name mealybug was derived from the fact that these insects produce a white waxy material from glands in their body. This "mealy" or "powdery" material is used to cover their body and protect them from dessicating.

Mealybugs are closely related to aphids and scale insects. Their movements are very sluggish. Once they begin to feed they are reluctant to move at all. These pests often congregate in large compact colonies, producing great masses of waxy fibers, burying the whole colony as it feeds beneath this protective covering.

Some species of mealybugs reproduce by laying eggs, others by giving birth to living young. Certain species utilize both methods of reproduction with live young being produced part of the time and eggs laid at other times. The method is dependent upon temperature and the season of the year.

Adult male mealybugs have two wings. Upon reaching the adult stage they fly about, mate with a female and then die. Females never have wings. After mating, those species which lay eggs produce an ovisac at the end of their abdomen. This is a fiber-like sack into which their eggs are laid. About 200-400 eggs may be deposited into each ovisac. The ovisac may be deposited into the mass of waxy powder housing the colony. In some species the female carries the ovisac attached to her body until the

eggs hatch, or in some cases until she dies.

Foliar mealybugs overwinter in the egg or early nymphal stage. In protected areas such as homes or greenhouses reproduction is continuous, with several generations being produced during a single year. All stages of mealybugs: eggs, nymphs, and adults may be found on infested plants at any given time.

Mealybug eggs are small, oval, and are whitish to yellowish in color. They hatch in about 5-10 days, dependent upon temperature. Newly hatched nymphs are yellow. They migrate throughout a plant in search of favorable feeding sites.

Symptoms of infestation and damage

Mealybugs have piercing — sucking mouthparts. They insert their mouthparts into tender plant tissue and suck out the sap. They extract a large amount of sap, much of which is excreted as a sweet sticky substance called honeydew. When honeydew collects on leaves and stems it supports the growth of fungi, producing a condition called "sooty mold." This condition appears as a black soot covering the infested plant. Sooty mold is superficial and does not hurt the plant. However, it is unsightly and when it occurs heavy enough it may reduce photosynthesis. Honeydew is water soluble and thus the honeydew, along with the sooty mold may be washed from infested plants. This can be difficult and quite time consuming.

Ants often tend mealybugs, carrying them from plant to plant and protecting them from the environment and predators. In return the ants feed on honeydew produced by the mealybugs.

Mealybug infestations can reduce plant vigor. Symptoms of an infestation include wilting of foliage, yellowing of leaves and the premature drop of buds, and blossoms. Heavy infestations can cause reduced leaf size, deformed growth, die-back and eventual plant death. Long before these symptoms appear on

the plant, mealybugs may be detected by the white waxy material they deposit on the foliage and by the presence of honeydew.

Several species of mealybugs can be found on African violets. At least four species feed beneath the soil level, on the root system. Included in this group is the pritchard mealybug, *Rhizoecus pritchardi*. For information on soil mealybugs refer to: Soil Mealybugs, Challenging Pests of African Violets, C. L. Cole, *African Violet Magazine*, Vol. 36, No. 3, June, 1983, pages 8-10.

Citrus Mealybug,

Planococcus (Psuedococcus) citri

The citrus mealybug is one of the most common mealybugs in greenhouses. This species is found throughout the United States and Canada. It can survive the winter out of doors in the Southern states. In the home or greenhouse reproduction is continuous with three or more generations being produced in a single year. Full grown females are about 3-4 mm in length.

Citrus mealybugs commonly cluster in colonies. Colonies form on the under side of leaves, on leaf petioles, stems and flower stalks. They generally can be found at shoot and leaf crotches. Heavy infestations can severely damage plants.

Citrophilus Mealybug,

Pseudococcus fragilis (gahni)

The citrophilus mealybug has a life cycle and habits which are much like those of the citrus mealybug. It does have a wider host range. This species may be identified by the presence of four rows of thinly waxed depressions down the back. Also, it has tail filaments which are about 1/2 the length of its body. In the citrus mealybug these are much shorter. Rarely is this species found on African violets unless the violets are accompanied in the greenhouse by other species of foliage plants.

Long-Tailed Mealybug,

Pseudococcus adonidum (longispinus)

Long-tailed mealybugs are about 3 mm long when full grown. They multiply very rapidly and all stages may be found on a plant at any given time. In this species the marginal body filaments are about 1/2 as long as the body and the tail filaments are as long as, or longer than the body. Also, they have a broad, faint dark

stripe down the back. This species prefers to feed on new shoots and leaves. Their feeding frequently causes stunted and deformed growth.

Bakers (Grape) Mealybug,

Pseudococcus obscurus (maritimus)

The Bakers mealybug causes considerable damage in nurseries and greenhouses. It ranges farther North than any other species. Their body is a bit more elongated than the citrus mealybug and full grown females may reach the length of 6 mm. Females lay 400-600 eggs and populations can increase rapidly.

Contraction and Spread

Mealybugs are so common and they are found on such a host range that it is not difficult to contract an infestation without even being aware of it. The most common source of infestation is from other plants. Being wingless and rather sessile, mealybugs tend to go where their host goes. The movement of potted plants and cut flowers are responsible for most infestations. Plants can appear clean, but it takes only one egg mass (200-400 eggs) to start an infestation. Most newly introduced populations are extremely low and never become established. However, some catch on, multiply rapidly and become entrenched in a culture.

Mealybugs may also be introduced into a culture from infested equipment such as pots, and tools. Some are introduced from out of doors on contaminated hands, or clothing. Mealybugs may, enter a home or greenhouse in the fur of animals, much as thrips frequently do.

Once established an infestation may be spread throughout a culture. The spread may be natural as the population builds up on a plant and the mealybugs migrate, looking for favorable feeding sites. Infestations may also be spread as individual plants, containing mealybugs, are moved about from room to room or shelf to shelf.

Ants often tend mealybugs and move them from place to place. This can be a factor in both the introduction and the spread of mealybugs in the home and especially in the greenhouse.

Prevention of infestation

Close inspection of all new plants is the best preventative measure for mealybugs. Plants

should be examined thoroughly. Check the under side of leaves, flower stalks if present, and where the leaf petiole joins the stem. New plants may be isolated for 4-8 weeks before being introduced into the culture. Isolated plants should be inspected at weekly intervals for signs of mealybugs or other pests.

Care should be taken with cut flowers. Inspect all arrangements and avoid arrangements from out of doors as they may harbor mealybugs as well as thrips, mites and other pests. Care should also be taken to prevent pets from coming into contact with plants, especially if they have free access to the out of doors.

Often, the simple act of removing a single infested plant can prevent the establishment or spread of an infestation. In this case, one should frequently inspect plants in the area where the infested plant was found. A control measure should be applied if additional mealybugs are found.

It is a good practice to observe other plants growing in the area of your violets. Bedding plants such as coleas and foliage plants, such as ivy are good hosts of mealybugs. Eliminating infestations on alternate hosts help prevent infestations on violets.

Denying ants access to your greenhouse can help prevent the introduction and spread of mealybugs. This can generally be accomplished by eliminating ant colonies around the outside of the greenhouse.

Cultural Control

Successful cultural control depends upon the frequent inspection of your violet culture. Infestations must be detected while mealybugs are low in numbers and before they have spread throughout the culture. When mealybugs are found, infested plants may be removed and destroyed. Often, the mealybugs can be removed using a cotton swab moistened with alcohol. All waxy material produced by the mealybugs should be removed from the plant as it could harbor eggs and young mealybugs. All plants treated in this manner should be isolated for a period of time to ensure that all of the pests were removed.

Chemical Control

Just as with soil mealybugs, foliar mealybugs are very easy to kill, however, it is difficult to

control an established population. The reasons for this include a high rate of reproduction, small size and secretive nature, and the protection provided by the waxy material they produce.

If populations are not completely eliminated resurgence may occur in a few weeks. Thus, frequent inspections should be made following insecticide treatments. The waxy material produced by mealybugs is not eliminated with the application of an insecticide and may be mistaken for an active infestation. Inspections of treated plants will help determine if control was achieved, thus eliminating the unnecessary use of pesticides.

As a general rule, best control of foliar mealybugs is achieved when 2-3 applications of a pesticide are used, at 7-10 day intervals. Thorough coverage of the stem and underside of leaves is essential. The use of a spreader-sticker in the spray enhances control.

At last count the EPA had registered 104 products for the control of mealybugs on African violets. Insecticides should be applied only when mealybugs are found. Preventative sprays should not be used as they have no effect if no pests are present and the residual effect lasts only a few days.

Insecticides labeled for controlling mealybugs on ornamental plants

Insecticides (Trade Name)

Acephate (Orthene®)
Bendiocarb (Ficam®, Dycarb®)
Chlorpyrifos (Dursban®)
Diazinon (Spectracide®, Knox Out®)
Dimethoate (Cygon®)
Disulfoton (Di-Syston®)

Insecticidal Soap
Kinoprene (Enstar®)
Malathion (Cythion®)
Mothoxychlor (Dymet®)
Oxamyl (Vydate®)
Pyrethrin I
Resmethrin
Rotenone



PINK OBSESSION
FIRE MOUNTAIN

LYNDON LYON GREENHOUSES
Paul & Sidney Sorano (photos by Paul Sorano)



They REALLY Caught the New England Spirit

And the winners are ...

The AVSA Silver Cup and Rosette and the Moby Dick AVS Award of \$100 for Best in Show at the 1990 Boston Convention went to **Marie Burns** of Baltimore, MD for *Party Print*. Marie also won the Gold Rosette and the Naugatonic AVS Award of \$25 for Best AVSA Collection (Amateur) with *Magnolia*, *Prince of Dixie* and *Majestic*. *Party Print* also won the Cape Cod Violetry \$50 Award, and the Spring Branch AVC \$25 Award. *Merry Marilyn* won Marie the Missouri Valley AV Council \$25 Award, and *Marcus* took the Alpha AVS \$25 Award. Marie's *Carousel Lady* won the AVS of Western New York's Rosette Award and the AVS of Lower Bucks County \$10 Award. *Fancy Nights* brought Marie the Amethyst AVC \$10 Award.

The AVSA Award of Merit Rosette & \$15 for 2nd Best in Show went to **Bev Promersberger** of Annandale, VA for *Honey Pink*, which also won the Patriot's AVS \$25 Award. Bev also won the AVSA Purple Rosette for 2nd Best AVSA Collection (Amateur) with *Pride's Pink Trail*, *Sundown Trail* and *Milky Way Trail*, which also won the Rhode Island AVS \$25 Award. Bev's *Honey Pink* also won the Nutmeg State AVS \$50 Award and the \$20 Central Jersey AVS Award. The \$10 Award donated by Sue Hill for Sweepstakes Runner-Up was also presented to Bev with 32 Blue Ribbons. Her *White Ruffles* won the Capitol District AVS \$15 Award and *Frilly Frolic* won the Ruth Wheeler \$15 Award. Bev also won the \$15 Nancy Hayes Award for *Nancy Hayes* and the \$10 Hortense Pittman Award for *Precious Pink*.

Kay Lyons of Levittown, PA won the AVSA Honorable Mention Rosette & \$10 and the Silvermine AVS Award of \$25 for 3rd Best in Show with *Snuggles*. *Snuggles* also took the \$10 Mid-America AVS Award and the Aca's Violet Tree \$20 Award. Kay also won the \$25 AV Study Club of Houston Award for *Cross Stitch* and the AVS of San Francisco Award of \$10 for *Toy Castle*.

The \$15 Leonard & Elaine Re Award for 4th Best in Show went to **Mark Grigalunas** of New York, NY for *Honeysuckle Rose*, which also took the Vivian Hiltz \$25 Award and the Metropolitan Regional Council of AV Judges \$10 Award. Mark also won the \$25 Bakersfield Award with

Bud's Melanie and the Lakeshore AVS \$25 Award for *Paumanok*. His *Episcia Cleopatra* won the Union County Chapter AVSA \$10 Award and the Amethyst Pendant Award from Judy Stock.

Betty Tapping of Toronto, Canada won the Holtkamp Greenhouses Coin and \$300 for Best Holtkamp Memorial Collection (Amateur or Commercial) with *Optimara Little Apatite*, *Optimara Little Sapphire* and *Optimara Rose Quartz*. Betty also won the Thimble Island AVS \$20 Award and the Linda D. Owens \$10 Award for *Petrocosmea "Flaccida"* and the Yvonne and L. T. Ozio, Jr. \$20 Award and the Marge Fargeot \$10 Award for *Aeschynanthus hildebrandii*. The Lily Stiel Hand-painted Plate Award and the Bay State Judges Council \$25 Award for Sweepstakes in Amateur Horticulture went to Betty with 36 Blue Ribbons. She also won the North Texas AV Judges Council \$25 Award for *Allosius* and the AV Council of Southern California \$25 Award for *Optimara Trinidad*. Betty won the Sweet Vi-O-Lets AVC \$10 Award for *Jean-Pierre Croteau*, the First Nighter AVS \$25 Award for *Concord*, the AVS of Greater Kansas City \$10 Award for *Baby Sunshine*, the Columbus AVS \$10 Award for *Lilith*, the Central Florida AVS \$15 Award and the Annabelle Hart \$10 Award for *Little Katherine*, the Gladys Jones \$15 Award for *Broadway Baby*, the Frank G. Senna \$15 Award for *Rob's Blue Light*, and the Nite Bloomers AVS \$15 Award for *Milky Way Trail*.

Harlan Montgomery of Wellesley, MA won the \$200 Holtkamp Greenhouses Award for 2nd Best Holtkamp Memorial Collection (Amateur) with *Optimara Oklahoma*, *Optimara Manitoba* and *Optimara South Dakota*. Harlan also won the AVS of Minnesota \$25 Award for *Blue Heron* and the Hortense Pittman \$10 Award for *Little Pro*.

G. Lorraine Connors of North Easton, MA won the \$100 Holtkamp Greenhouses Award for 3rd Best Holtkamp Memorial Collection (Amateur) for *Optimara Wyoming*, *Optimara Atlanta*, and *Optimara Oregon* and the Irene Fredette \$25 Award for *Tiger*.

Carolyn Klein of Richmond Hill, NY won the Wachusett AVS \$50 Gilbert Hallet & Lois Roy Award for Best Miniature, the Paumanok

AVS \$10 Award and the Unpredictable AVC \$10 Award with *Lucky Lass*. Carolyn also won the Flowertown Violet Club \$25 Award for *Irish Angel*.

Peg Eaton of Brighton, MA won the St. Louis AV Judges Council \$15 Award for 2nd Best Miniature and the Virginia F. Linson \$10 Award with *Mini Minx*.

R. M. McCabe of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, won the AV Association of Gardeners \$25 Award for *Melody Kimi* and the Lone Star AV Council \$25 Award for *Massada Sport*. He also won the AVS of Philadelphia \$25 Award, the Potomac Council of AV Judges Rosette and the Cape Cod Violetry \$50 Award for *Saintpaulia nitida*.

Betty Shanahan of Hudson, MA won the Hudson Highlands AVS \$25 Award with *Maas' Chris*.

Richard Harriman of Montreal, Quebec won the Tristate AV Council \$25 Award for *Vampire's Kiss*.

Marge Fargeot of Branford, CT won the Jeanette Richards Hand-painted Door Chime Award for *Fredette's Meringue*.

Edwina Gross of Bohemia, NY won the New Jersey Council of AV Judges \$25 Award for *Heavenly Notes*.

Jan Dexter of Orange, MA won the Central Connecticut AVS \$15 Award for *Snow Rose*, and the AVS of Minnesota \$25 Award for *Bridal Lace*.

Denyse Chevrefils of Lac Poro, Quebec won the Tampa AVS \$25 Award for *Comete Bleue*, the David Lass \$20 Award for *Tommie Lou*, and the First AVS of Dallas \$15 Award for *Trail Along*.

Lynn Wallach of Westport, CT won the Delores & David Wilson \$25 Award for *Wrangler's Canyon Echoes*.

Althea Major of Bedford, MA won the Windsor AVS \$10 Award and the Hans & Everdina Inpijn \$10 Award for *Mickey Mouse*.

Margaret Dephillippo of Collegeville, PA won the Central Texas Judges Council \$10 Award for *Optimara Little Pearl*, the New York City AVS, Inc. \$15 Award for *Optimara Leo*, the Thousand Oaks AVS \$10 Award for *Happy Teen* and the Transvaal AVS \$10 Award for *Sinningia Cardinalis*.

Deanne Post of Montgomery Village, MD won the Julia Fladt \$10 Award for *Sundown Trail*.

Beryl Wood of Cambridge, MD won the AVS

of Canton, Ohio \$10 Award for *Kohleria "Barbara Roberts"*.

Opal Nuyianes of Fairfax, VA won the Saintpaulia Society \$10 Award for *Kiwi Dazzle*.

Antoinette Rogan of Wayne, NJ won the Tinari Greenhouses \$25 Award for *White Cameo*.

In the Design Division the AVSA Silver Cup & Rosette, the Southern California Judges Council Tri-color Rosette, the Twin State AVS \$25 Award and the First Austin AVS \$10 Award was won by **Frank Senna** of Oakland, NJ for Best in Design with "Moonlight in Vermont." Frank also won the Capitol District AVS \$15 Award for "Snowflake Ballet" and the AVS of Lower Bucks County \$10 Award for "The New England Aquarium."

Carolyn Klein of Richmond Hill, NY won the Baltimore AVC \$25 Award for 2nd Best in Design and the Chenango Valley AVS \$10 Award with "Arnold Arboretum."

Ronald B. Stuckey of Huntington, NY won the Metropolitan St. Louis AV Council \$25 Award for Sweepstakes in Design (8 Blue Ribbons), the Doris H. Hatten \$10 Award for "New Hampshire, The Granite State," the NASA Area AVS \$10 Award for "Cranberry Bogs," and the All Seasons AVS African Violet Plate Award for "Ivy League."

Joan Stuckey of Huntington, NY won the Betty Lou Lages \$20 Award in memory of Emily Holtman for Sweepstakes Runner-Up in Design (6 Blue Ribbons, 2 Red Ribbons) and the First AVS of Denton \$10 Award for "Massachusetts, The Bay State."

Jill Fischer, Berkeley Hgts, NJ won the Mark Twain AVS \$10 Award for "Walden Pond."

Frances K. Baschnagel of Entra, NH won the Amethyst AVC \$10 Award for "Maine, The Pine Tree State."

Joyce Stork of Arlington, NB won the Margaret M. Eaton \$10 Award for "Connecticut, The Nutmeg State."

Bob Green of Rockledge, FL won the Fort Worth AVS \$10 Award for "Rhode Island, The Ocean State," the Eleanor Omerad China Tray Award for "Tanglewood," the Ventura County AVS \$10 Award for "Swan Boats," and the AVS of Greater Kansas City \$10 Award for "Boston Tea Party."

Beryl Wood of Cambridge, MD won the Betty Shanahan \$10 Award for "Microchips."



COCO LOCO
PEPPERMINT TRAIL

BARBARA ELKIN



Honorary One-Year Memberships Awarded

*Esther Edwards Wells
AVSA Awards Chairman*

John Cook of Falmouth, Massachusetts, was awarded the AVSA Honorary One-Year Membership in recognition for serving as Vice Chairman of Commercial Sales and Exhibits since 1985. He has been a member of AVSA for 16 years, has been a commercial member since 1975, and is a Senior Judge. John served as Convention Vice Chairman and Show Vice Chairman for the AVSA Convention in Boston in 1975. He is a member of the Bay State AVS, Moby Dick AVS, Nutmeg AVS, New York State AVS, as well as several other regional societies. He is past president of Bay State and Moby Dick and is a director for New York State. He is also a member of the AVSA Policies and Procedures Committee. John previously received the AVSA Honorary One-Year Membership Award in 1976.

Lyndall Owens of Beaumont, Texas, won the Honorary One-Year Membership Award in recognition for serving as writer of the Affiliate 'appenings column in the African Violet Magazine. She has been a member of AVSA for 12 years and is a Life Member. Lyndall is a member of the Beaumont AVS, of which she is past president, and is a member of the Lone Star AV Council and Dixie AVS. Since 1980 she has faithfully compiled the results of affiliate shows for publication in the AVM. Lyndall served as assistant editor of the AVM with Grace Foote as editor. She has also served on the Publications Committee.

Ruth Warren of Fall River, Massachusetts, in recognition for serving as Convention Chairman for the Boston 1990 AVSA Convention was awarded the Honorary One-Year Membership. She has been a member of AVSA for 20 years, is a Senior Judge, and is a Life Member. She is a member and past president of the Bay State AVS, is a member of the Judges Council of Massachusetts, and is a member of the Moby Dick AVS, of which she held every office. Ruth has served as an AVSA Director, is a member of both the AVSA Convention and Library com-

mittees, and is currently chairman of the AVSA Booster Fund.

Olga MacLean of Abington, Massachusetts, was awarded the Honorary One-Year Membership in recognition for serving as Show Chairman for the Boston 1990 AVSA Convention. She has been a member of AVSA for 40 years. Olga is a Master Judge and has served as president of the Bay State AVS, having founded this society in 1959. She has also helped organize other clubs in the Massachusetts area. Olga has also served as an AVSA director and was general chairman for the 1967 Boston AVSA Convention. She previously received the Honorary One-Year Membership in 1986.

Esther Edwards Wells of Liberty, Missouri, received the Honorary One-Year Membership Award in recognition for serving as Convention Chairman for the Kansas City 1989 AVSA Convention. She has been a member of AVSA for 10 years and is a Judge. Esther is a member of the Mid-America AVS, of which she is past president, and is a charter member of the Missouri Valley AV Council. She is an AVSA Director, has served as a member of the AVSA Convention Committee and as Chairman of the AVSA Nominating Committee. Esther is currently Chairman of the AVSA Awards Committee, and serves on the AVSA Publications Committee.

Joyce Stork of Arlington, Nebraska, was presented the Honorary One-Year Membership Award in recognition for serving as Show Chairman for the Kansas City 1989 AVSA Convention. She has been a member of AVSA for 15 years, has been a commercial member since 1978, and is a Judge. Joyce is a member of the Lincoln AVS and is a charter member and past president of the Missouri Valley AV Council. She is a new AVSA Director, is Vice Chairman of the AVSA Awards Committee, and received the Bronze Medal for Horticultural Achievement with husband, Kent, last year in Kansas City.

Lizeta Hamilton and Helen Van Pelt Wilson Named to AVSA Hall of Fame

*Esther Edwards Wells
AVSA Awards Chairman*

Lizeta Hamilton of Hightstown, New Jersey and **Helen Van Pelt Wilson** of New Canaan, Connecticut, were inducted into the AVSA Hall of Fame at the Boston 1990 AVSA Convention.

Lizeta was honored in recognition of outstanding service and significant contributions to AVSA. She is a Life Member and has served the Society since 1958 when she began by contributing articles to the African Violet Magazine.

In 1964 she became Affiliate Chairman, a post she held until 1971.

In 1975, she was elected as Secretary and served two years. She received the Honorary One-Year Membership Award in 1965 and the Continuing Service Award in 1975. Throughout these years she was an active Judge and Judging School Teacher.

In 1988, Lizeta received recognition from AVSA for her substantial matching contribution to the AVSA Building Fund.

Helen Van Pelt Wilson was also inducted into the AVSA Hall of Fame for her outstanding service to AVSA.

In 1945 she wrote a full page article for the *Ladies Home Journal* complete with a cover picture of African violets supplied by Anne Tinari. Along with the article, a 10-page booklet on the care and culture of African violets was offered at a cost of 10¢. The demand was so great that at least five printings followed, encouraging her to write a full-length book later that same year.

Over the years, five other full-length books followed.

Her books were the first full account of the discovery of the African violet, with specific cultural instructions given on all aspects of growing and hybridizing. Hers were the first books to describe phytoillumination for the successful flowering of African violets. Each book was different, but all contained very valuable information to inspire growing, especially

for the amateur and the hobbyist.

Helen was a frequent speaker at the early conventions, was the featured speaker in 1965 in Baltimore, and finally in 1976 in Atlanta.

She received the AVSA Bronze Medal in 1952 and the AVSA Honorary Life Membership Award in 1961.

"Mini-Mam" **Awarded Honorary Life Membership**

*Esther Edwards Wells
AVSA Awards Chairman*

Ellie Begin of Long Beach, New York, was awarded an Honorary Life Membership for her long-time contributions to AVSA.

Ellie, known to many as the "Mini-Mam," wrote a column on miniatures and semiminiatures for the African Violet Magazine for many years.

She served as Chairman of Miniatures and Semiminiatures from 1971 to 1989. During this time, she compiled a handbook on these plants and a registration list of them.

During this same time, Ellie was active in the New York State AVS, the Long Island AVS, and the Judges Council of New York State. She also served as an AVSA Director, as Vice Chairman of the New York AVSA Convention in 1972, and as Chairman of the AVSA Nominating Committee.

Ellie is a Life Member, a Master Judge, and a Judging School Teacher.

Ellie received the Honorary One-Year Membership Award in 1973, the Continuing Service Award in 1978 and 1988, and retired from the AVSA Board of Directors in 1989 to care for her late husband.

Commercial Division Winners From Boston Convention

Meredith Hall

Though much smaller than usual, the commercial division of the AVSA Convention/Show in Boston brought many new and beautiful plants along with our older favorites. The beautiful displays gave no hint of the heat, rain and snow through which many had been forced to arrive.

Rob's Mini-o-lets **Tonawanda, NY**

Ralph Robinson garnered all top honors at this show. His table won First Place Display Table, First Place Horticultural Perfection, and, again this year, Best New Cultivar. He again had 45 near perfect blue ribbon plants, all miniature or semiminiature. There were 10 new cultivars, but 'Rob's Silver Spook' took top honors as Best New Cultivar. It is a registered semiminiature with semidouble white blossoms that have lavender shadings. They sit above perfectly symmetrical Champion variegated foliage. The pink rosette was awarded to another new introduction called 'Rob's Fiddle Faddle' which has rosy pink semidouble blossoms over almost invisible green tailored foliage because it is such a prolific bloomer. 'What Not' is a semiminiature that is a real beauty with semidouble white blossoms with a red eye over green tailored foliage. There was also an eye-catching chimera, 'Rob's Swizzle Stick.' It has long lasting single red and white striped blossoms over Tommie Lou variegated foliage.

Midland Violets **White Bear, WI**

Jean Ness has learned how to take high honors fast. She took Second Place Display Table, Second Place Horticulture Perfection and Third Best New Cultivar. The Nesses have shown us some lovely new hybrids the past few years. This table contained both standards and semi-

miniature plants. 'Ness's Sizzling Pink' won 3rd Best New Cultivar. The name is perfect for these hot pink iridescent, slightly ruffled semi-double pansy-shaped blossoms. We were told they last forever. The standard size foliage is a shiny dark green and very symmetrical. 'Ness's Red Flash' is a new semiminiature release to watch for, winning the pink rosette with its many bright fuchsia-red semidouble pansy-shaped blossoms over dark green pointed, red backed foliage. 'Ness's Tutti Frutti' is another new semiminiature that has white and pink bicolor semidouble pansy blossoms with very symmetrical Tommie Lou variegated foliage. 'Ness's Classi Chassi' is a new semiminiature chimera with white and red striped non-dropping single blossoms over green tailored foliage.

Lyndon Lyon's Greenhouses **Dolgeville, NY**

Sidney Sorano really showed us an unusual table this year. She has miniaturized the miniatures. Her table won Third Best Display Table, Third Place Horticultural Perfection and Second Best New Cultivar with 'Irish Flirt.' Those who missed seeing this table missed a treat. There were 13 groupings of three of these tiny violets in thumb pots, most of which she hybridized. They were flanked by two huge beautiful Episcias. Again, all were blue ribbon plants. 'Irish Flirt' is the greenest green double blossom you can imagine over beautiful green symmetrical foliage. 'Snuggles Blushing Doll' was one of my favorites. This plant formed a perfect nosegay of variegated foliage with tiny pale pink double blossoms with a dark eye. 'Snuggles Busy Bee' has bright red blossoms over variegated foliage and 'Snuggles Tiny Baby' has little blue blossoms over variegated foliage. Here we are really talking tiny!

Kent's Flowers
Arlington, NB

Year after year Kent shows us 15 beautiful blue ribbon standard size plants. He displayed several new cultivars and several of our favorite older varieties. His table won an Honorable Mention Rosette for Fourth Place Display Table and Horticultural Perfection. 'Champagne Halo' with beautiful cream, white and pink variegated foliage covered with large rosy pink two-tone double blossoms won the pink rosette. 'Itchy Stitches' is a beautiful large semidouble lavender star with fantasy stripes and dots of darker shades over green foliage. 'Hello There' has green foliage with beautiful fluffy double pink blossoms with green and white edges. 'Victorian Bouquet' also has green foliage with clear purple blossoms, slightly edged.

Hortense's African Violets
San Antonio, TX

As usual, Hortense's Honeys were exactly that. We saw 45 blue ribbon miniature and semiminiatures; some new but also some of our favorites we have all been growing. A new variety, 'Tender Love' is a semiminiature with double pink blossoms over Tommie Lou variegated foliage showing some pink. 'Dots of Love' is a deep wine blossom with dogwood tips over shiny Tommie Lou miniature foliage. 'Teen Princess' is also a miniature having double bell-shaped pink blossoms over very shiny Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Old favorites of 'Happy Teen,' 'Sweet One,' and 'Pat Champagne' were a few of the older varieties on display.

SPECIMEN PLANT SECTION

Jo Wells of Tonawanda, NY won the Gold Rosette for Best AVSA Collection with *Wee Be*, *Missie Miss* and *Precious Pink*, second place Holtkamp award with *Optimara Trinidad*, *Optimara Mississippi* and *Rhapsodie Gisela*. *Little Cameo* won best in Class 83 and also Best Miniature with green foliage.

Shirley Sanders of San Antonio, TX, owner of Shirley's House of Violets won the Purple Rosette for her AVSA Collection of *Wee Be*, *Little Pro* and *Precious Pink*; the First Place Holtkamp award with *Optimara Little Diamond*, *Optimara*

Little Apatite and *Optimara Little Sapphire*. She also won best Trailer in Class 87 with *Ramblin Silver*.

Nolan Blansit won Best in Class 81 with *Oh Melba*.

Cape Cod Violetry took Class 82 with *Cross Patch*. The Cooks also won Sweepstakes (17 Blue Ribbons) and the Third Place Holtkamp award with *Optimara Trinidad*, *Optimara Molokai* and *Optimara Nassau*.

Michelyne Frechette won Class 84 with *Little Lady* and Class 86 with *Michelane*.

Bill and Kathryn Paauwe of Violets by Appointment won Best in Class for Semiminiature with plain foliage with *Magic Blue*.

Mary Lou Harden of Lynde Violets had the Best in Class for Other Gesneriads with *Sinningia 'Powder Puff'*.

**Gladys Hudnall
Honored
For Continuing Service**

Esther Edwards Wells
AVSA Awards Chairman

Gladys Hudnall of Austin, Texas, received the Continuing Service Award at the Boston 1990 AVSA Convention. She has been a member of AVSA for 30 years. During that time she has held every office in both her local affiliate, the First Austin AVS, and the Lone Star AV Council. She is a Senior Judge.

Gladys has served AVSA as a Director, as Convention Chairman for the 1978 Austin AVSA Convention, and as Pre-Convention Coordinator from 1983-89. She retired from the Board of Directors in 1989.

Gladys received the Ruth Carey Affiliated Chapter Leadership Award in 1978, the Honorary One-Year Membership in 1980, and the Continuing Service Award in 1985.

This is a highly condensed summary of the service Gladys has rendered. From convention site selection to arranging place cards on the head tables for convention banquets, she has done it all.

Paul and Sidney Sorano Awarded AVSA Bronze Medal

*Esther Edwards Wells
AVSA Awards Chairman*

In 1982, Paul and Sidney Sorano took over management of the Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses in Dolgeville, NY. Previous to this, both had been active hybridizers. Sidney's best known plant previous to this was 'Autumn Honey' and Paul's was 'Kristie Marie.' Since 1982, they have presented a Commercial Display Table every year except one and have consistently placed in the top four, winning Best Display Table at Milwaukee in 1983 and St. Paul in 1986. They have also received several of the top awards for Best New Cultivars during this time.

Some of their achievements have been to increase blossom size, to expand the number of varieties of red blossoms, to develop green color in blossoms, and to make improvements in chimeras and miniatures.

Sidney continues to do much of the hybridizing for the Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses and is most responsible for the grooming of show plants. Sidney is also always willing to share her knowledge with customers and fellow African violet enthusiasts. She currently serves on the AVSA Membership Committee.

Having grown up in the greenhouse, Paul went on to earn an engineering degree and then rejoined the family business. He has continued to take a scientific approach to improved horticulture and the use of insecticides. He currently serves on the AVSA Research Committee.

The combination of Paul's and Sidney's work together has furthered the legacy of African violet culture established by Lyndon Lyon.

Hudson Memorial Award Presented to Meredith Hall

*Esther Edwards Wells
AVSA Awards Chairman*

Meredith Hall of Houston, Texas, in recognition for outstanding service to her local affiliates, won the Hudson Memorial Award. She has been a member of the African Violet Study Club of Houston since 1973, of which she has held all elected offices as well as Show Chairman. Meredith has also been a member of the Spring Branch AV Club since 1975, in which she has also held all elected offices and has served as Show Chairman. She has also been a member of the Lone Star African Violet Council since 1975, having served as President, Vice President, and Convention and Show Chairman. She currently serves as Co-Editor of the Lone Star Newsletter. Meredith has been a member of the Central Texas Judges Council since 1980 and has held all offices.

For AVSA, Meredith is a Life Member, a Commercial Member, a Senior Judge, and a Judging School Teacher. She currently is the Advertising Manager for the African Violet Magazine and is the Vice Chairman of the Commercial Sales and exhibits Committee. She received the Honorary One-Year Membership Award in 1986.

Hugh Mackey Receives Silver Pen

The Silver Pen Award is presented to an author who has received five Certificates of Appreciation. This award is a certificate and a silver pen. Hugh Mackey of Woodstock, Georgia, was presented the Silver Pen Award in Boston. His article, "A Color Wheel of Violets" earned him his fifth certificate.

**Start Planning Now
For the 1991 AVSA Convention
in Santa Clara, California**

Awards for Yearbooks, Newsletters and Magazines

The AV Association of Gardeners of Orlando, Florida won the AVSA Blue Rosette and \$50 Award for Best Affiliate Yearbook, Alice Droege, president; Lottie Cohen, yearbook chairman.

The Red Rosette and \$30 Award for Second Best Affiliate Yearbook went to Jefferson AV Association of Metairie, Louisiana, Al Armstrong, president; Debbie Ganey and Cheryl Staley, chairmen.

First Austin AVS of Austin, Texas won the White Rosette and \$25 Award for Third Best Affiliate Yearbook, Dolores Gibbs, president; Barbara Cecil, yearbook chairman.

The Lavender Rosette and \$10 Award for Fourth Best Affiliate Yearbook went to Magic Knight AVS of San Antonio, Texas, Lynda Welchel, president.

The Best Affiliate Newsletter Award of the Blue Rosette and \$50 went to "The Violetter," Pomona Valley AVS, California, Hilda Douglas, president; Cindy Myers, editor.

The Red Rosette and \$25 Award for Second Best Affiliate Newsletter went to the Ventura County AVS Newsletter, Ventura County AVS, California, Charles Alvarez, president; Jean Shipley, editor.

Illinois AVS won the Blue Rosette and \$50 Award for Best Affiliate Magazine with "African Violet Leaves," Jean Willey, president; Joe and Janice Bruns, editors.

The Red Rosette and \$25 Award for Second Best Affiliate Magazine went to the Dixie AVS for "The Dixie News," Sandra Mims, president; Barbara Strock, editor.

Certificates of Appreciation Awarded

*Jane Rexilius
Publications Chairman*

Each year the AVSA Board of Directors and the Publications Committee are asked to choose up to 10 articles published in the African Violet Magazine during the past year which, in their opinion, were the most interesting, helpful and well-written articles. Each author is presented with a certificate and a free AVSA membership to be given by them to a non-AVSA member of their choice.

At the Boston convention, Certificates of Appreciations were presented to the following authors:

Larry Hodgson for "Pinwheels versus Chimeras: Are They the Same?"

Kyle Coleman for "Disbudding or Disblooming?"

Irene Fredette for "On Foliar Feeding"

Dr. Jeff Smith for "Yellow Fever Continues"

Shirley Jeffrey for "Cousins of the Royal Family"

Delores Larsen for "Propagating the African Violet"

Lynda Welchel for "Keeping Pets and Rais-

ing Violets"

Julia Adams for "Container Gardens" and

Walt Maurus for "Ah Hah" and "Looking Back."

Kyle Coleman Takes Tinari Award For Membership

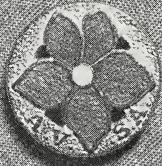
The Tinari Greenhouses Membership Award for obtaining the most new AVSA memberships during 1989, was awarded to Kyle S. Coleman of Fort Worth, Texas. Kyle signed up 26 new members.

Nell-Sue Tyson of Denver, Colorado received Honorable Mention signing up 25 new members.

Congratulations to both, and keep up the good work for AVSA.

Celebrate AVSA !

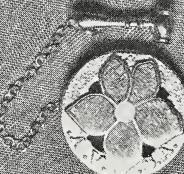
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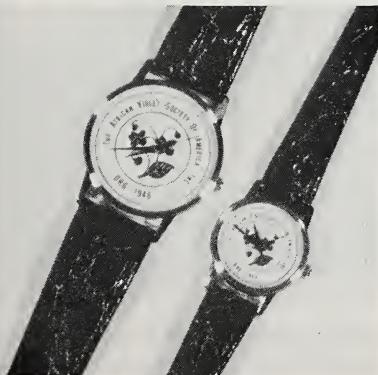
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Best of Show: The Ultimate Experience

Wayne Geeslin
1202 Seagler Rd. #196
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African violets and I go back a long time — 21 years to be exact. I began my long love affair with African violets when I was nine years old, at which time I knew of only three types: purple, pink and white. I remember "fertilizing" one poor African violet with milk in hopes that it would perk up and bloom. That violet bit the dust a long time ago.

It wasn't until 1979, during undergraduate studies at Texas A&M University, that my interest in African violets really skyrocketed. In the spring of 1980, I joined the Brazos Valley African Violet Club and since their annual show had already come and gone that year, it wasn't until the spring of 1981 that I entered my first African violet show with one plant — Optimara Kentucky — which was awarded a blue ribbon and won best in class. I was in hog heaven and was thrilled to have won a ribbon of any color. I entered again the following year and won five blue ribbons.

By this time, I had been diagnosed (by fellow undergraduate friends majoring in psychology) as having "acute obsessive/compulsive saintpauliachondria."

Finally, in 1983, I was awarded a rosette on which was inscribed the three most important words in an African violet grower's vocabulary: **BEST OF SHOW**. I also won my first gold rosette for best AVSA collection that year.

Since then, a lot of things have happened and to make a long story shorter, I have subsequently amassed over 200 awards including the top three awards in any African violet show — Best of Show, 2nd Best of Show and Best AVSA Collection.

I have entered a total of 14 competitive African violet shows — at the local, state and na-

tional levels — at which 17 of my entries have been considered for Best of Show honors.

Upon conclusion of my 1988 "showing season," just after competing at the "nationals" in Dallas, I decided to take a temporary leave of absence from showing due to severe burnout. However, I'm starting to get the itch again and may return to the show circle either this fall or next spring.

Since 1987, two of my show plants have garnered full color pages in the *African Violet*



Wayne Geeslin of Houston, TX, holding one of his many "Best In Show" award-winning plants.

Magazine.

One reason why we all read the AVM, in addition to looking at the beautiful pictures and finding out what's winning around the country and what we can't possibly live without, is to obtain sound, reliable, "juicy" growing tips from other expert growers from around the country in hopes that doing so may result in the ultimate experience: BEST OF SHOW.

For those of you have not quite mastered the ultimate experience, I offer herewith my "Best of Show Game Plan":

WATER

I use only natural spring water (bottled) to water my violets (utilizing the wick and reservoir method). I *bathe* each of my show plants with distilled water on a quarterly basis.

LIGHTS

I use two 40-watt GTE Sylvania Gro-Lux bulbs, one wide spectrum and one regular, per shelf. I recommend a distance of about 8-10 inches from the lights; that's the distance from the foliage, not from the top of the pot.

The lights are kept in operation 10 hours per day except at show time, in which case I may sometimes gradually increase the lights to a maximum of 12 hours per day when show plants are not coming into bloom soon enough. The bulbs are replaced once a year but on an alternating schedule so that only one bulb is replaced every six months (thus, one bulb is always less than six months old).

FERTILIZER

I alternate year-round between several excellent balanced fertilizers including Rapid Gro and Peters 20-20-20. Approximately 10-12 weeks prior to a show, I switch from any one of several balanced fertilizers to either Peters 12-36-14 or Peters 5-50-17, both of which are used as "bloom boosters" to encourage maximum setting of buds. The latter is used for only 3 weeks, commencing at 10 weeks prior to show. Although several top growers highly recommend foliar feeding,

I personally have not had good results with foliar feeding, and, as a result, do not feel comfortable making a recommendation as to its use.

SOIL & REPOTTING

As a general rule, I repot each plant in my collection every 2-3 months, gradually moving plants from one pot size to the next, as follows: 2-1/4", 3" 3-1/2" or 4", 5" (azalea), 6" bulb (pan). All of my show plants are shown in 6" bulb (pan) pots. I use two different potting mixes: Dottie Wilson's Show Plant Soil (available from Wilson's Violet Haven in Bryan, Texas) and a 1-1-1 mix (equal parts of peat, vermiculite and perlite) developed by J. C. and Lenora Munk of Houston.

BLOSSOMS

More than 50% of an African violet's score when point scored (see *Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors and Judges* for a complete breakdown of the standard scale of points) is derived from its blossoms (25 points for floriferousness according to variety, plus 15 points for type and size of blossom, plus 10 points for color of blossom equals 50 points out of a total of 100 points). Up to another 5-10% (or more) of a show plant's point score total can be in the form of deductions (generally 1/2 point each) for spent blossoms. Therefore, a show plant's blossoms should be a major point of consideration and one should take note of the following: (i) *never* leave a spent blossom on a



'Boca Grande,' one of Wayne's favorite show plants, was selected as a finalist at the 1986 Lone Star African Violet Council show.

show plant; (ii) if a bloom *appears* that it may be spent, IT IS; (iii) if a blossom has an "eensy, teensy, little brown dot" on it, remove the blossom; (iv) do not leave on any show plant a "denuded" bloom stem (as defined by Pauline Bartholomew in her wonderful book, *Growing to Show*) (e.g., the kind with three tiny blooms dangling at the end of a huge, barren bloom stalk); (v) take full advantage of the stake placed in the pot to identify the variety, by propping up one or more bloom stems for a fuller and more even distribution of the blossoms; (vi) position the plant so that the "front side" of the plant is the side which gives the plant the *appearance* of having the most blossoms; and (vii) gently move bloom stalks into position to form an even distribution of blossoms around the crown of the plant (either in a "nosegay" fashion or a "halo" fashion). I have on a few occasions "rearranged" the blossoms on fellow competitors' plants (with their permission, of course) almost to the point where the grower didn't recognize his or her own plant!

DISBUDDING

I recommend *partial* disbudding of show plants year-round (I never allow more than three bloom stems to mature) and *complete* disbudding of young plants under 12 months of age (to allow for maximum growth of foliage). A starter plant is allowed to bloom once to assure that it is blooming "true" per its color classification. I practice partial disbudding of show plants for the sole reason that I can enjoy my violets and have a little color in the house and at the same time, I can grow all of my plants for show without them suffering a culture break (caused by heavy blooming) which often results in stunted and/or deformed leaves in the center of the plant. At show time, I recommend *complete* disbudding (as opposed to clipping stalks, leaving 1/4" or 1/8" stubs) at about 7-1/2 to eight weeks for most semi-doubles and doubles and five to six weeks for singles. One exception is 'Something Special' which I disbud for the final time at 10 weeks. Keep in mind, however, that varying cultural conditions and/or the weather may necessitate making adjustments to your disbudding schedule. In my experience, I have *not* noticed dou-

bling of the number of blossoms put up by a plant, as professed by most advocates of the "clipping method." However, I have noticed at least one direct result of the "clipping method": show plants are often left with unsightly scar tissue when the stubs are removed. Also, removing the stubs can sometimes require the skills of a trained surgeon and more often than not, at least in my case, results in a few broken leaves, heightened blood pressure and some four-letter words. I have produced show plants with over 200 blossoms at show time without utilizing the "clipping method."

SHOW VARIETIES

There are thousands of African violets on the market from which to choose. A few varieties which have *consistently* performed for me as proven show plants year after year are as follows: Something Special (Nadeau), Wrangler's Dixie Celebration (Winston Smith), Pink Energy (Nadeau), and Boca Grande (Sandra Williams). Some more current varieties which I feel show great potential for future Best of Show honors are: Harbor Blue (Weber), Picasso (Tremblay), Kathe Denise (Nadeau/Goins), Pink Rosette (Lenora Munk), Texas Lullaby (Bryant) and Apache Jewel (J. C. Munk). These 10 varieties are all spectacular show varieties.

AVSA COLLECTION

Rule Number One: *always* enter an AVSA collection. Rule Number Two: use a *planned strategy* in selection, entering and placement of your collection plants. A strategy that I use which has proven very reliable and resulted in one gold rosette after another is as follows: (a) *point score* each potential collection plant from those registered plants which you plan to show; and (b) scout your competition when you arrive at the show site and (i) if your competitors' AVSA collections are not all that strong (e.g., average less than 95 points per plant), select the plants with the highest, third highest and fourth highest point scores for your AVSA collection and place the plant with the second highest point score in the regular class according to foliage, bloom type and/or bloom color, as applicable, or (ii) if, on the other hand, your competitors' AVSA collections are extremely

competitive, select the plants with the three highest point scores for your AVSA collection, a common practice of most growers who enter the AVSA collection class. Regarding placement of your AVSA collection entries, I have had the best results by placing my best plant (i.e., the plant with the highest point score) right up front in the very middle so that its superior qualities will be the first thing the judges notice — not the flaws on the other two entries.

FINAL GROOMING

Over the years, I have seen and/or judged many African violets which if only the grower had taken a little more time to properly groom would have easily won Best of Show. One such plant in recent memory was the most beautiful specimen of 'Wonderland' I have ever seen. It had gorgeous, perfectly symmetrical foliage and over 100 blossoms, yet, unfortunately, the grower was inexperienced in showing and did not know to remove the small pedicel stubs when removing spent blossoms. This small error on an otherwise spectacular show plant cost the grower Best of Show in a show with 286 entries.

The most important aspect of competitive showing of African violets is grooming. It is something the grower can do to definitely increase the chance of a plant winning a special award, whether it be best in class or Best of Show. I've seen absolutely magnificent show plants in pots two or three sizes too small. I've seen beautiful show plants which would have been Best of Show material if five to 10 spent blossoms had been removed. A grower's grooming skills are acquired through practice and experience.

Here are a few *grooming tips*: (i) strive for *immaculately* clean foliage, free from any debris whatsoever (two ways of accomplishing this feat are "bathing" your violets on a regular basis and regularly "dusting" your plants with a soft camel's-hair brush); (ii) remove leaves which are yellowed, "haloed" (have slightly-yellowed leaf edges), marred or torn unless doing so will spoil the plant's symmetry; (iii) as a general rule, never leave a *badly* torn leaf on a show plant (even if the plant hypothetically could score 99 points in an AVSA collection, it proba-

bly would not be selected for Best of Show, just as a plant with a burned crown, in practice, is usually never selected as Best of Show, although either might be "considered"); (iv) if powdery mildew is present at show time on the foliage, bloom stalks or blossoms, *paint* the affected foliage, bloom stalks and/or *backside* of the blossoms with Funginex (1/4 teaspoon per gallon of water) using a soft camel's-hair brush — works every time; (v) always remove pedicel and peduncle stubs completely, using sharp dental scissors — not your fingers or a huge pair of shears; (vi) make sure each plant is *centered* in the pot and is potted in a pot of the correct size (repot into the proper size, if necessary, the day of entries) — a plant which is in a pot of the wrong size may lose up to three points and/or Best of Show; (vii) check for and remove suckers, if any (be sure to check down under the petioles for "soil suckers" — a sucker's a sucker no matter where it comes from!); (viii) plan to spend at least *one hour per plant* to take care of final grooming for each of your top four plants entered in any given show — the idea here is to spend the *majority* of your time on the plants which have the greatest probability of winning Best of Show; and (ix) if you have the privilege of being allowed in the show room for an hour or so the morning of the show (usually 7:00 - 9:00 a.m. in the case of a local show), utilize every bit of this time for any final grooming: remove spent blossoms as well as "questionable" blossoms (if in question, remove), make sure that each leaf is positioned correctly so that it falls directly between the two leaves in the next outer row, and remove with a soft camel's-hair brush any visible specks of dust or debris which may have settled on the plant overnight.

RECYCLING SHOW PLANTS

All of my entries in any given show are "recycled" approximately 2-3 weeks following the show. (An in-depth discussion on recycling show plants, although an important topic, is beyond the scope of this article; however, an excellent source of information on this topic is Pauline Bartholomew's book, *Growing to Show*.) My basic premise is, "If you have a plant that consistently wins awards, why get rid of

it?" In addition, I am a firm believer that there are superior strains of almost all varieties, so if you happen upon one, your best option is to hold onto it. How many times have you shown a spectacular show plant of a particular variety, subsequently sold or gotten rid of it following a show, and then couldn't ever grow another specimen of the same variety with the same results? Recycling show plants has really paid off for me. For example, my oldest 'Something Special' (recently turned seven years old) has won one award after another. Its list of accomplishments include: a point score of 99 points in an AVSA collection two years in a row, a 2nd Best of Show win one year, winner of six AVSA gold rosettes in six tries, and a Best of Show finalist five times in three showing seasons! The point I would like to make is as follows: if you have a superior plant, hold onto it!

I hope some or all of the foregoing tips will be useful to you in your growing methods, and I wish you the best of luck with your show plants.

Please keep in mind, however, that there are almost as many ways to grow beautiful, prize-winning African violets as there are growers of African violets. It is important to keep an open mind toward new and different methods of growing and always give ample consideration to the ideas and advice of top growers, especially those who are perennial Best of Show winners. Sometimes all it takes is one simple tip from another grower which ultimately results in your winning Best of Show. Regardless of your particular growing method, one of the most important factors, if not *the* most important factor, to growing superior show plants which consistently win top awards is CONSISTENCY. If you've never won the tricolor award for Best of Show, and you would really like to, start planning a strategy right now to make whatever changes are necessary to your current "game plan" to achieve this honor. The experience of winning Best of Show is truly incredible and is, without a doubt, THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE ... GO FOR IT!!



'Interlude' (middle) and 'Something Special' (left), both grown and exhibited by Wayne, were Best of Show and 2nd Best of Show winners, respectively, at one of Houston's largest shows.

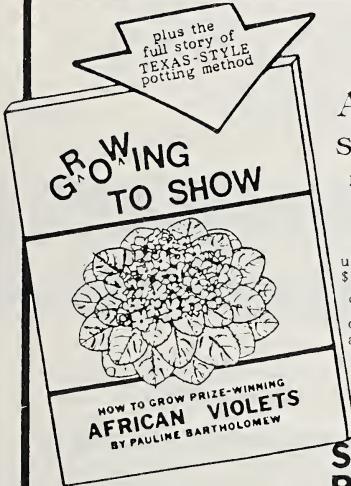
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By Appointment Only



AFRICAN VIOLET PLANTS AND LEAVES

For 1990 Listing of Older Favorites
and Newest Varieties, send \$1.00 to:

Albert G. Krieger, Dept. AV,
1063 Cranbrook Dr., Jackson, MI 49201

(517) 782-1158

Sorry, No International Shipping

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Established 1960

28-27 214th Place Bayside, NY 11360 (718) 224-3376

KONK — It's here in the U.S.

At long last—finally a tried and true solution for the control of blossom thrips. See article pg. 46, 11-12/89 AVM. 24 hour protection with "Timed-Aerosol Dispenser" releasing pyrethrin (the safest insecticide) in very small quantities continuously and intermittently. EPA approved. ORDER NOW from me, the U.S. Dealer.

Air Guard Mister with one can insecticide (30-day supply) \$53.75 plus \$4.50 shipping charge. Additional Cans \$9.75 each, plus 1 - 2 cans - \$2.75; 3 or more - \$3.75. Make check payable to: LEILA M. EGENITES

See our ad in the Jan/Feb 1990 AVM for "BEST OF THE NEWEST FOR 1990" Send 50 cents in stamps or coins - NO CHECKS PLEASE - for complete list including discount prices on Floracarts.

SHIRLEY'S HOUSE OF VIOLETS



The 1990 varieties are still available from BOONE, HORTENSE, HOBBS, NESS, FREDETTE, STORK AND OTHERS. Our descriptive list is available for 75 cents in stamps or coin. Supplies available on list.
LEAVES:

24 NEW RELEASES - OUR CHOICE \$18.00

24 NEW & PREVIOUS RELEASES - OUR CHOICE \$14.00

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Priority shipping on leaves - \$3.00 - Texans add 7% tax. 1034 RAYBURN DR., SAN ANTONIO, TX 78221. PH. 512-923-1093

JoS VIOLETS

15 Standard starters \$22.95 Send stamp for list
12 Semimini & mini starters 19.95 402 Dundee
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My choice, labeled, different and postpaid.
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All Size Plants - Leading Hybridizers
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Never Needs Batteries
Turns Up to 30 Lbs.



\$19.50

Includes shipping
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714

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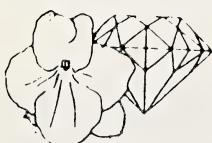
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NEW FOR 1990

15 MINIATURES & SEMIMINIATURES - 4 TRAILERS

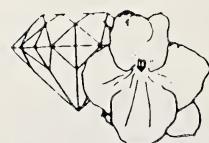
NOW Specializing in only Miniatures, Semiminiatures and Trailers

All are heavy bloomers with regular and variegated foliage. Send stamp for descriptive list of these and many previous releases. Ready for shipping. USA only



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SOME SPECTACULAR PLANTS FOR SHOWING OR FRESH LEAVES FOR GROWING!
ORDER DIRECT FROM THIS ADVERTISEMENT OR FROM OUR COMPLETE LIST.

GEMCRAFT PINK PEARL (JOLLIFF); BILL FOSTER (BRYANT); PARTY CLOUDY (BOONE); MEMORIES, MERRY MARILYN, RED LION (BURNS); BLANCHE REIVE, JUENESSE (TREMBLAY); CRIMSON EMBER, FREDETTE'S RISEN STAR, JINGLES, TIGER'S SON (FREDETTE); APACHE BEAUTY, AP. DREAM, AP. EAGLE, AP. JEWEL (MUNK); FROSTER WHISPER (SCOTT); SUNCOAST SEABREEZE, SUNCOAST FIESTA (WILLIAMS); plus lovely WRANGLERS, trailers by PITTMAN, and the best of LYON and others.

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PLANTS \$3.25 - Catalog - \$1.00 Refundable 1st order — LEAVES still 75¢

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NEW PRODUCTS FOR YOUR AFRICAN VIOLETS AND HOUSE PLANTS!

YOU MAY REFERENCE OUR AD IN THE NOVEMBER 1989 AVM

DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE MISSING!

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If you are serious about your African Violets and want them to be radiantly beautiful with full blooms and last longer, you've got to try GRANNY'S BLOOMERS, the formula contains the key trace elements

To keep your violet strong rooted with rich green leaves you need JUNGLE JUICE also good for strong root & leaf systems.

CACTUS JUICE with cactus loving high calcium and lots of trace for all your cacti and bromeliads.

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I am enclosing \$ _____ please send me

6 oz.	JUNGLE JUICE	\$5.00 ea.
6 oz.	GRANNY'S BLOOMERS	\$5.00 ea.
6 oz.	CACTUS JUICE	\$5.00 ea.
6 oz.	FLOWER CRACKER	\$5.00 ea.
6 oz.	SITTING PRETTY	\$5.00 ea.
6 oz.	ORCHIDS EXOTICA	\$5.00 ea.
1 pint	JUNGLE JUICE	\$7.00 ea.
1 pint	FLOWER CRACKER	\$7.00 ea.
1 pint	ORCHIDS EXOTICA	\$7.00 ea.
1 pint	GRANNY'S BLOOMERS	\$7.00 ea.
1 pint	SUPER HARVEST (vegfood)	\$7.00 ea.



1 gal.	JUNGLE JUICE	\$29.00 ea.
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1 gal.	CACTUS JUICE	\$29.00 ea.

SAVE SHIPPING COSTS BY ORDERING

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ORDER 2 OR MORE ITEMS = FREE FREIGHT COSTS.

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TOTAL _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

PLASTIC FLOWER POTS

Inch Size	Color	Type	10	20	50	100	500
2-1/4	Wh or Gr	RS or SQ	1.00	1.75	4.00	6.75	27.00
2-1/4	Black	Square	1.00	1.75	4.00	6.75	27.00
2-1/2	Wh or Gr	RS or SQ	1.20	2.00	4.30	7.40	30.00
2-1/2	Black	Square	1.20	2.00	4.30	7.40	30.00

Quantities of White and Green 2-1/4" and 2-1/2" SQUARES may be limited. Please indicate on your order if black is acceptable.

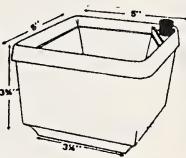
3	Wh/Gr	RS/RT/SQ	1.50	2.70	6.00	11.00	50.00
3-1/2	Wh/Gr	RT or SQ	1.75	3.10	7.30	13.00	58.00
4	Wh/Gr	RS/RT/SQ	2.10	3.70	8.30	15.50	70.00
4-1/2	Wh/Gr	RS/RT/SQ	2.35	4.20	9.25	17.00	79.00
5	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	2.75	5.10	11.75	20.75	93.00
6	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	3.35	5.90	14.00	26.00	
6-1/2	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	3.90	6.90	15.75	29.00	
7	Wh/Gr	RS	6.30	11.95	28.00		
8	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	6.90	13.10	31.00		

NOTE: The RT of the 3", 3-1/2" & 4" has a good round edge. Due to cost of shipping large quantities of 6", 6-1/2", 7", & 8" please write for special quotes for ordering amounts not listed.

MOIST-RITE PLANTERS

The attractively designed, double wall planters provide self-watering. Colors are: white, light green, and black.

Single Planter	\$ 4.00
Six Planters	20.00
Twelve Planters	35.00
Twenty-four Planters	58.00



OYAMA PLANTERS

Available in white & green the pots are:

4 inches across the top	\$ 1.49
5-1/2 inches across the top	2.99



PLASTIC PAN POTS

Very shallow — depth is about 1/2 the width

Inch Size	Color	10	20	50	100	250
5	Wh or Gr	3.00	5.75	13.50	24.00	55.00
6	Wh or Gr	3.90	7.50	17.00	32.00	75.00
6-1/2	Wh or Gr	4.15	8.00	18.50	35.00	86.00
8	Wh or Gr	6.25	11.50	27.00	52.00	126.00
10	Wh or Gr	9.75	18.25	43.50	83.00	203.00

SEEDS

AFRICAN VIOLETS - from the Nadeau Seed Company	
Packet: 100 seeds & directions	\$4.75
Kit: 100 seeds, directions, container, pellet medium	5.25
Your choice: #1 - Rainbow Wonders (standard);	
#2 - Little Gems (minis); #3 - Autumn Fancies (variegated);	
#4 - Trailintriue (trailers).	

SINNINGIAS - from Jeanie Moe

Packet: 100 seeds & directions	\$3.75
Kit: 100 seeds, directions, container, medium	4.25
Your choice: #A - Purple; #B - Maroon; #C - Pink;	
#D - Mix; #E - MicroMini (Purple & White).	
(See our catalog.)	

YOUR REQUEST FOR OUR FREE CATALOGUE WILL BE ANSWERED BY RETURN MAIL!

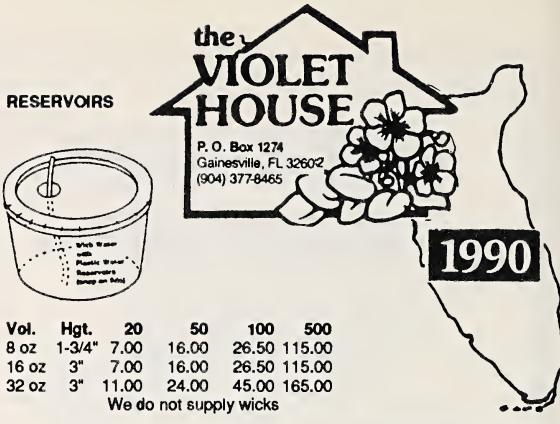
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Florida Customers Must Add 6% Sales Tax**

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No collect calls

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48 States (United Parcel Service)	\$3.25
If C.O.D., UPS charges additional	3.30
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"Specializing in
Minatures & Trailers"

Select your choice special from the following group:

A selection of Rob's plants, including new varieties
An assortment of Hortense's Honeys, proven show plants
A medley of trailers, including miniature & semiminiature

A collection of Canadian hybrids

A rainbow selection of minatures & semiminiatures

A petite collection of Microminis
SIX (6) PLANTS - \$16.95 PPD.

OTHER SPECIALS:

18 leaves, all 1990 releases - \$15.95 ppd.
12 assorted gesneriad cuttings - \$12.95 ppd.
18 leaves, new & previous releases - \$10.00 ppd.
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Priority Shipping - ppd. • UPS 2nd Day Air (highly recommended) add \$2. Texans, please add 7-1/2% sales tax.

Complete list - \$1.00

For charge orders, send all information on card. 5% service charge on charge orders.



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A must for Violet lovers
"The Compleat Violet Supply Catalog"
Call or write for discount supplies, plants and leaves catalog.

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FRESH CUT AFRICAN VIOLET LEAVES

* BEST OF THE NEW AND OLD *

The newest from the major hybridizers, esp. Lyon, Pittman, Robinson, and Wasmund. Plus a lot of the oldie-but-goodies from the past ten years or so, esp. Bakers.

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Automatically 24 Hrs. a Day The Air Guard Way

GUARANTEED

- Intermittent Pyrethrin Dispenser
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- Actuator guaranteed 2 full years.

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30 day no hassle money back guarantee if not satisfied. Just return with receipt in original package for full refund

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20 leaves	13.50
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6 starters	14.85
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MARY'S VIOLET

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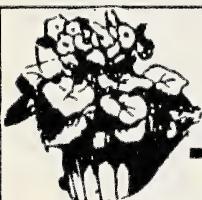


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Diatomaceous Earth for soil mealy bugs	1# \$ 3.50
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SHIPPING \$3.50 — LIST \$1.00



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New and older varieties of African violets, from leading hybridizers, and our own new plants. Send \$1 for our new 1990 catalog, or order from our ad in Jan. AVM. Try our Super Special - 12 husky starters - all different - \$24 postpaid - all plants our choice.

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T SHIRT

**Violet Growers
love to ...**

**show off
their bloomers.**

Everyone from anglophiles to zoo keepers has a T shirt to proclaim their cause. Now here's one for violet lovers. The message says:

**"VIOLET GROWERS LOVE TO ...
SHOW OFF THEIR BLOOMERS."**

Lovely lavender colored 50% cotton, 50% polyester, short sleeved, crew neck T shirt with purple lettering. American made. Machine washable, minimal shrinkage. Get one for yourself and one for your favorite violet grower. \$8.59 each, plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. (Colorado addresses add 3% sales tax.) Sizes: Small (34-36), Medium (38-40), Large (42-44), Extra Large (46)

We also have a complete line of growing supplies, lighted plant stands, soils, fertilizers, rolled rim pots, wicking trays, insecticides, leaf support rings, books, seeds and more. AND leaves, or plants of over 250 different violets — minis, standards, and gesneriads. Lots of new varieties for '90 plus many old classics.

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EASY DIRECTIONS
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 Every time you water,
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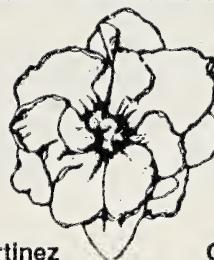
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Cheryl Hukle

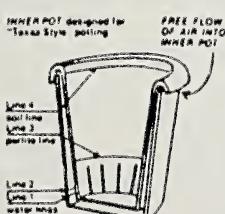
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 Tampa, FL 33610
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Get your **FREE** catalog containing a full selection of African violets, gesneriads, and necessary supplies. Come visit us in Tampa, FL.

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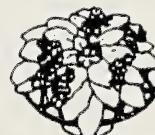
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OYAMA 'TEXAS STYLE' PLANTERS®

1. Little or no watering skill required.
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3. Approved for shows by African Violet Society

Give Your Violets A Lift
 With
Elisa's African Violet Rings



1. Keeps leaves from getting cut on pot edges.
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NESS' MOODY BLUES - Lg light blue dbl stars. Dark Green, red reverse foliage. Standard. Lovely blue. \$3.75

NESS' TUTTI FRUTTI - White and Pink bi-color dbl. Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Semimini. Everyone's favorite. \$3.75

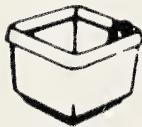
NESS' RED FLASH - Bright fuchsia-red dbl pansy. Dark green, red reverse foliage. Semimini. Judged best plant on our display table. \$3.75

NESS' SWEET PEA - White and pale pink pansies cover Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Semimini. Another Cutie. \$3.75

NESS' GLOW BABY - White dbl blossoms with fuchsia edges. Medium green foliage. Semimini. Propagates from suckers only. Won 2nd Best New Cultivar - 1989 Kansas City Convention. \$20.00 Limited Supply.

NESS' CLASSI CHASSI - Bright fuchsia-red pansy w/white stripe. Medium green foliage. Semimini Chimera. This one stands out in a crowd! \$20.00 Limited Supply.

Send a large SASE for shipping list (with Fall supplement) or order from this ad. Shipping and handling - UPS 2nd Day Air only - \$4.50, plus .25¢ per plant. Minimum order of \$15.00. Please make checks payable to Jean Ness.



The House of Violets



Charlyne and Ralph Reed

936-940 Garland St., SW - Dept. 790
Camden, Arkansas 71701 - Ph. 501-836-3016

"MOIST-RITE" PLANTER

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Circle color desired

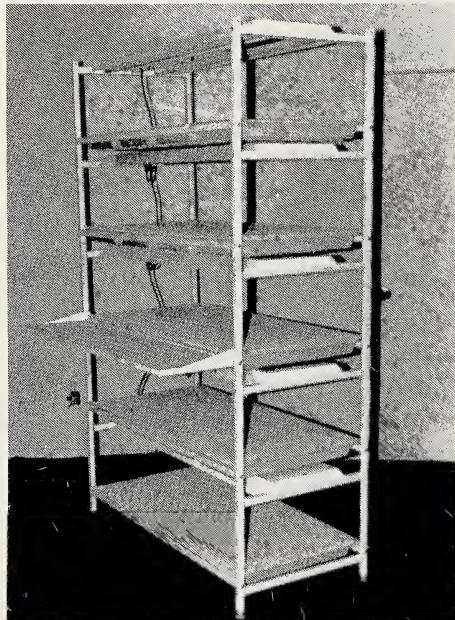
Green	White	Black
Single planter.....	\$ 4.25 ppd.	
Carton of 6.....	20.00 ppd.	
Carton of 12.....	35.95 ppd.	
Carton of 24.....	61.00 ppd.	

Prices subject to change without notice

STATE OF THE ART PLANT STAND

These state of the art plant stands are specifically designed to create and project the necessary artificial sun needed to nurture your interior plants. It facilitates all phases of growth from propagation to show plants. The stands are made of white enameled one inch square tubing with 16 gauge wall. Adjustable leveling jacks are included to ensure stability. The light fixture is 16 inches wide with a lamp spacing of 10 inches for maximum coverage, and is made rust resistant and lightweight. The fixture has the D & H slide in-and-out feature for easy cleaning and maintenance. The fixture also includes a grounded electrical cord, switch, and a receptacle for easy plug in. Bring the loveliness of the great outdoors, indoors and allow your flowers to flourish with the strength and health that delicate flowers need. Perfect for plants you can be proud of! There are several models to choose from. Each stand comes with all the hardware and instructions for assembly, durable plastic trays, cube louver, and lights. An optional feature is the attachable work bench which can be easily adjusted to conveniently fit and accommodate each plant level.

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Collection of Best Varieties & Award Winners

The best plants and the best prices.

13 starters --- \$20 30 leaves --- \$10

My choice, all different, labeled, postpaid

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Send stamp for list
Ph. 806-665-6809



AFRICAN VIOLET LEAF SUPPORTS

5 SIZES

6" fits up to 3" pot

9" & 12" fits up to 5" pot

15" & 18" fits up to 8" pot

Made of leaf-green plastic, fit any type of pots
Send stamped, addressed, long envelope for
price list and current shipping charges.

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PRYOR, OK 74361

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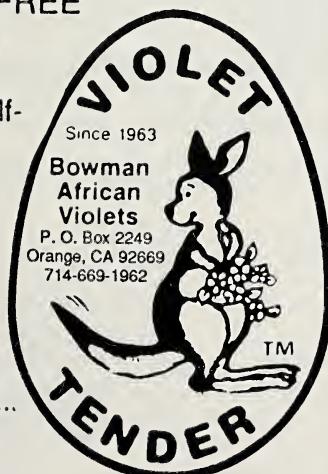
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more ...



Rob's Mini-o-lets

Miniature African Violets and Gesneriads

From the award-winning display table
at this year's AVSA Convention:

ROB'S SILVER SPOOK: best new introduction, and my personal favorite. A small semimini w.loads of dbl. white and lavender blooms on wonderful, heavily variegated foliage

ROB'S PINKY WINKY: fluorescent dbl. rose-pink w/thin white edging; dark var. foliage; extremely prolific semimini

ROB'S PINK SATIN: halo of large dbl. satin-pink blooms; a semimini with exquisite variegation

ROB'S WHIMSICAL: excellent small semimini foliage won't be seen beneath mounds of dbl. white blooms w/blue eye

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ROB'S ARTFUL DODGER: scrumptious ruffled dbl. white w/ blush eye and very green petals; TL var. semimini foliage

ROB'S BEADAZZLED: never-ending loads of lavender-purple

geneva blooms over dark TL var. foliage; small semimini

ROB'S COPPER CAT: dbl. copper blooms w/fringed dark green edges (really); dark TL var. foliage; semimini

ROB'S EMBER GLOW: fantastic dbl. pink, tipped dark rose, then edged white; TL var. foliage; terrific semimini

ROB'S ROMANCER: abundance of dbl. red pansies w/in white edge; great TL var. miniature foliage

ROB'S STARBERRY: bouquet of very large dbl. pink stars over very dark show foliage; excellent mini showplant

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PLEASE HAVE YOUR ORDER TO US BEFORE OCTOBER 10.

By late October our Nebraska weather is often too cold for safe shipment of African violets.

Please list a few suitable substitutes with your order. We do our very best to avoid substitutions, but sometimes shortages do occur. If we cannot fill the greatest majority of your order, we will contact you. We reserve the right to make substitutions if necessary on minimum orders.

New releases for fall 1990 shipping:

ARAPAHOE - very large and showy red semidouble stars over light to medium green pointed tailored foliage; similar in color to Tomahawk but is an even brighter shade of red; vigorous, large-growing plant; our own hybrid. (leaves only - \$2.00 each)

CHAMPAGNE HALO - gorgeous two-tone pink doubles over lovely symmetrical dark green, cream and pink variegated foliage; heavy bloomer; excellent show plant; new from Gordon Boone. (plants - \$4.25; leaves - \$1.75)

GRAND FLASH - terrific sister seedling of Phantom Flash; huge single to semidouble fluted fuchsia stars sometimes up to 3" in diameter; amazing masses of these long-lasting blossoms are held up on strong erect stems over symmetrical medium green tailored foliage; another Boone beauty great for show. (plants only - \$4.25)

HELLO THERE - large brilliant pink full doubles edged with white and sometimes with hints of green; sturdy, strong-growing plant with deep green quilted foliage; excellent bloomer; makes an eye-catching show plant; also a Boone hyd. (plants - \$4.25; leaves - \$1.75)

ITCHY STITCHES - soft lavender-pink semidouble frilled stars swirled with flecks and streaks of medium blue; large blossoms are produced in abundance over somewhat glossy deep green foliage; our own hybrid. (leaves only - \$2.00)

MEDICINE MAN - vibrant deep reddish coral semidouble to double blossoms in abundance over light to medium green tailored foliage; super show plant with magnificent blossom color; along with Tomahawk, this was our best seller at the Boston convention; our own hybrid. (plants - \$4.25; leaves - \$2.00)

MIDNIGHT WAVE - deep midnight purple fringed semidouble pansies with fine white edges; ornate deep green red-backed wavy ruffled foliage is soft and pliable and shapes nicely into symmetrical show form; something different from Gordon Boone. (plants - \$4.25; leaves - \$2.00)

PERSIAN HALO - glowing semidouble plum purple semidoubles over rather compact flat-growing medium green foliage feathered with cream variegation; another beautiful addition to the Halo series from Gordon Boone. (leaves only - \$1.75)

And that is only a partial list of the new hybrids from us and from Gordon Boone that we are pleased to offer for fall shipping. For our complete fall shipping list, including all of the 1990 releases as well as other recent African violet cultivars, send us your name and address along with 50 cents.

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3"-3 1/2"-4" round tubs have rolled rims

SIZE	COLOR	TYPE	10	25	50	100	500
1-1/4"	Wt. (only)	Thumb Pot	\$ 1.20	\$ 2.75	\$ 4.80	\$ 9.00	\$ 41.50
2-1/4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	.95	1.80	3.30	6.00	26.40
2-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	1.05	1.95	3.60	6.60	30.00
3"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.20	2.75	4.80	9.00	41.50
3-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.35	3.30	6.00	11.40	52.00
4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.75	3.85	7.20	13.50	59.40
4-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.40	5.60	8.00	15.50	73.00
5"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.70	5.90	11.40	20.75	94.00
6"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	3.40	8.20	15.00	27.70	125.00
6-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	3.80	8.60	16.60	30.50	132.00

MINIATURIZING MINI POTS WITH SAUCER

1-1/4"	Terracotta	3.00	6.25	11.50	20.00	80.00
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VIOLET POT WITH DETACHABLE SAUCER - ROLLED RIM

3-3/4"	Gr. only	Rd. Tub	2.85	6.60	12.50	22.50	103.65
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PLASTIC HEAVY DUTY POT SAUCERS

3-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	1.35	3.30	6.00	11.40	
4"	Gr. or Wt.	2.25	5.25	9.00	16.80	
5"	Gr. or Wt.	2.65	5.85	11.10	20.75	
6"	Gr. or Wt.	3.60	8.60	15.80	29.00	

PLASTIC WICK WATER RESERVOIRS

(recessed snap-on-lids) 16 oz.	3.00	7.15	13.20	24.00	105.00	
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3" White, Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Lavender, Pink.	100	500	1000			
4" White, Green, Blue, Lavender, Pink.	1.00	4.75	7.00			
5" White, Lavender.	1.25	5.75	10.00			
4 1/2" White only	1.50	7.00	13.00			
	2.00	9.00	17.00			

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4-1/2"	Wt. (only)	3" Deep	1	5	10	25	50
5-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	3-1/8" Deep	.70	3.10	5.60	12.75	23.00
6"	Gr. or Wt.	4-1/4" Deep	.90	4.20	7.80	18.00	33.60
8"	Gr. or Wt.	5" Deep	1.05	5.10	9.70	22.80	43.20
10"	Gr. or Wt.	6-1/4" Deep	1.30	6.30	12.00	28.80	55.00

PERMANEST TRAYS - Light Green - No Holes

4" x 8" x 2-1/2"	1	6	12	25	50	
8" x 8" x 2-1/2"	.75	4.25	8.00			
8" x 12" x 2-1/2"	1.25	7.25	13.75			
22" x 11" x 2-3/4"	1.35	7.50	13.80			
13" x 15" x 3-1/2"	3.99	23.00	45.00			
	4.25	24.50	48.00			

PLASTIC TRAYS - No Holes

25-1/2" x 13-1/2" x 3-3/16"	Gr. or Wt.	3.25	18.50	35.00	67.00	
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Elisa's African Violet Rings

Mini (6")	Gr. only	.90	4.75	8.50	16.25	29.00
9"	Gr. only	1.00	5.00	9.00	17.50	33.50
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Charcoal	No. 4 Coarse	20 oz. 40 oz. 2.75
	No. 6 Medium	1.50 3.50
Vermiculite	No. 2 Coarse	5 qts. 16 qts. 4.00
Perlite	Coarse	1.50 3.50
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6"	-\$3.50 each (Wh. only)

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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 43 Number 5 September · October 1990

Strictly Business — Your Business

INFORMATION FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY TO ENSURE GOOD SERVICE. IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM, SEND EACH ITEM TO THE CORRECT PERSON. ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

MEMBERSHIP

AVSA Membership: Send check payable to AVSA for new or renewable membership to AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Life - \$175; Commercial USA - \$25, Commercial International - \$27; Individual - \$15.00, USA only. All other countries \$17.00. Remit in U.S. Dollars with draft or check on a New York, USA Bank. See Membership Application on page 1.

AFFILIATES: Chapter - \$15.00; Council, State or Region - \$30. Please complete the form received with your renewal notice and return to AVSA office with affiliate dues check..

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION: Send ideas, offers to help, requests for assistance to Anne Tinari, 2325 Valley Rd., Box 190, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

AFFILIATES: For information on shows, awards, how to organize a chapter or membership questions, write Irene Merrell, W 283 Hillendale Dr., Oconomowoc, WI 53066.

AVSA OFFICE: Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704, 409-839-4725. Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

BEST VARIETIES: HONOR ROLL COMPILER: Rita Hilton, 2295 W. Helen Circle, Bartow, FL 33830.

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BOOSTER FUND: Send contributions to Ruth Warren, P. O. Box 3664, Fall River, MA 02722.

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BUILDING FUND: Send contributions to Nell-Sue Tyson, 2030 E. Amherst Ave., Denver, CO 80210.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: Mr. David Buttram, P. O. Box 193, Independence, MO 64051.

COMMERCIAL SALES & EXHIBITS: For information on convention entries or sales room, contact J. R. Pittman, 12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233.

CONVENTION

AWARDS: Jan. issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Esther Wells, 948 Fair Oaks Court, Liberty, MO 64068 by Sept. 1.

FUTURE CONVENTION DATES: Santa Clara, CA, April 23-28, 1991; Columbus, OH, April 22-26, 1992.

PROGRAM: Jan. issue. Send special requests for workshop programs; suggest names of interesting speakers to Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Leeward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

If interested in sponsoring a national convention in your area, contact Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Leeward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

CULTURE FOLDERS: ALL folders are \$5.00 per 100 (postage included in cost). Any Affiliate or Commercial who recruits 6 or more members per year will receive \$1.00 rebate for each new member. Club or Commercial name & address must be stamped or written in blank space on front of folder.

HANDBOOK FOR AFRICAN VIOLET GROWERS, EXHIBITORS AND JUDGES: You can now order the May 1990 revised pages to insert in 1986 edition for \$3.50. If you do not have the 1986 edition, order the revised book for \$9.95 (Postage included/both).

JUDGES DUPLICATE CARD: Send self-addressed stamped envelope to Bill Foster, 3610 Gray Dr., Mesquite, TX 75150.

JUDGING SCHOOL: For blanks to register a judging school, send request to Mrs. Stanley E. Skelton, 3910 Larchwood Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041.

LIBRARY: Order AVSA slide programs and packets from AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. List in July issue. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate, write Mr. L. T. Ozio, Jr., 1009 Ditch Avenue, Morgan City, LA 70380.

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EDITOR: Jane Birge, P. O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704, Office, 409-835-6008.

ARTICLES BY MEMBERS & COLUMNISTS: Send to Editor.

COMING EVENT NOTICES: Send to Editor.

DEADLINES - ARTICLES & NOTICES: Jan. issue - Oct. 1; Mar. issue - Dec. 1; May issue - Feb. 1; July issue - Apr. 1; Sept. issue - June 1; Nov. issue - Aug. 1.

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MEMBERSHIP CARDS: Sent to Associate Members and New Members, only. Members renewing, receive card on white protective cover of AVM.

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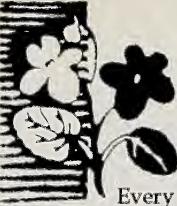
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PLANT REGISTRATION: Marilyn Goldstein, 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

RESEARCH: Send suggested projects for scientific research, or names of interested, qualified potential research personnel to Frank Tinari, 2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Vol. 43 Number 5

September/October 1990

Every attempt is made to keep articles technically correct. Since the growing of fine African violets can be achieved in many ways, the methods and opinions expressed by writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of AVSA.

ON THE COVER — *Party Print* — Best in Show - 1990 Boston AVSA Convention - hybridized and grown by Marie Burns, Baltimore, Maryland.

(Cover photo by Bob Howard / Photography Unlimited, Mansfield, MA)

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MARY BOLAND, President

6415 Wilcox Ct., Alexandria, VA 22310

A. CHARLES BOLLAR, 1st Vice President
F32030 P.O. Box 44209, Cincinnati, OH 45244

MRS. J. R. PITTMAN, 2nd Vice President
12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233

L. T. OZIO, Jr., 3rd Vice President

1009 Ditch Ave., Morgan City, LA 70380

MRS. JANET T. RIEMER, Secretary

392 Penn-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534

MRS. JOHN HAYES, Treasurer

9 Cobblestone Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

MRS. FRED YOUNG

6109 Shadow Mountain Dr., Austin, TX 78731

EDITOR EMERITUS

MRS. GRACE FOOTE

211 Allien Place, Port Arthur, TX 77642

STAFF

JANE BIRGE, Editor

P.O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704

MRS. MEREDITH HALL, Adv. Mgr.

922 East 14th St., Houston, TX 77009

NANCY LAWRENCE, Office Manager

P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704

JANE REXILIUS, Publications Chairman

5634 Yarwell, Houston, TX 77096

COLUMNISTS

David Buttram, Irene Merrell, Florence Naylor,
Ruth Warren, Bill Foster, Jim Smith, Nancy Lawrence,
Georgene Albrecht, L. T. Ozio, Jr., Marlene Buck,
Bill Johnson, Nell-Sue Tyson, Lyndall Owens, Marilyn Goldstein
BEST VARIETIES, HONOR ROLL COMPILER:
Rita Hilton, 2295 W. Helen Cir., Bartow, FL 33830
TALLY TIME COMPILER:
Anna Jean Landgren, 810 Ingleside Place, Evanston, IL 60201

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From the President's Desk



Dear AVSA Members,

Summer has come to an end and fall is about to begin. Some of you are busy preparing for a fall show while others are planning spring shows. If you do not belong to an Affiliated Club or a local society, and would like to see a show, be sure and read the Coming Events column in this issue for a show near you.

Minutes of the Boston board meetings are published in this AVM. Be a concerned member and know what is being decided at these meetings.

Research grants have been awarded to Dr. Charles Cole of Texas A&M, Dr. Jeff Smith of Oklahoma and Professor Karen Hughes of the University of Tennessee.

Anne Tinari has written a review on a new book, "Flowering Houseplants," from the Time-Life Gardener's Guide. There are several sections in this book devoted to our plant — the African violet. I would like to thank the AVSA members who helped Time-Life with their project.

The corrected sheets for the Growers, Exhibitors and Judges Handbook are now available from the AVSA office. Be sure and read the Shows and Judges column for particulars. A thank you to our past Shows and Judges Chairman, Emilie Savage, and to our current chairman, Bill Foster, for the time they have spent on preparing this project.

Barbara Elkin, Santa Clara (CA) Convention Chairman and her committee are busy preparing a wonderful convention for you in April of 1991. This will be one you won't want to miss. The dates are April 22nd to the 27th. If you are planning your vacation, why not include Santa Clara, California in April of 1991?

We have recently purchased a new computer for the office. It should improve our services to you, our members. This year, donations sent to the Booster Fund will go toward the price of the computer. Remember — your donations are tax deductible. Any amount will be appreciated. This is your organization.

When September arrives, many of us start our holiday shopping. Be sure to check the items AVSA has for sale. New this year are the watches with the AVSA logo, tote bags with the AVSA logo, and if you are looking for something for yourself, how about a new Master Variety List or slipcases or binders for your African Violet Magazines?

Happy growing and showing to all of you,

Mary C. Roland

Newsline: AVSA Beaumont Office

Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager

Need Help Growing? If you have questions about growing your African violets, it is very likely that help is not far away. AVSA has affiliated clubs all over the United States and in other countries, with members who are experienced growers. We have listed those clubs, by state and country, in this magazine for your convenience; so, if you have a question about "growing" or you just want to share your knowledge of African violets, contact the president of the club closest to you — we bet you'll be glad you did.

Also listed in this magazine is a list of our COMMERCIAL MEMBERS by state and country. These folks too, are happy to offer growing information to our members, along with the finest in violets and growing supplies.

Revised Pages for Handbook: We are pleased to inform you that we now have the REVISED PAGES for your handbook.

Cost for the 44 revised pages is \$3.50 (postage included). If you have the 1986 Handbook with the yellow cover, you will want to *order these pages*. When you replace the corresponding page numbers with the new pages, you will have a **complete, updated book**.

Revised Handbook: If you do not have the 1986 book, you will want to order the complete, revised book. Cost is \$9.95 (postage included).

Growing Information: Some of our newer members may not be aware that the Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors and Judges contains valuable growing information and information on the prevention, identification and eradication of pests and diseases. In addition, the book contains the following:

- a short history of African violets
- a pictorial description of the African violet

and its parts

- a pictorial description of African violet blossom and foliage types
- how to register an African violet
- propagation information

New 1990 Master Variety List #5: We expect to have the new MVL #5 ready for shipping by the end of September. You will be pleased to know that the new book will be looseleaf so that future supplements can be inserted. Cost of the New MVL: \$12.95 - postage included.

Binders for new MVL and Handbook: The AVSA office will have 3-ring binders available for the new MVL and the Handbook, by the end of September. The price of the binders will be published in the November AVM or you can call the office for information (409) 839-4725 at the end of September.

Computer Diskettes of the New MVL #5: Diskettes of the new MVL will be available in the office. Write or call for an information sheet on available computer compatibility for the diskettes, and the cost.

Membership Promotion: AVSA is always interested in our members ideas for membership promotion. There are thousands of people who try their hand in growing African violets who do not even know that AVSA or the African Violet Magazine exists. If you have an idea on how we can reach those people, write to our Chairman of Membership and Promotion, Anne Tinari, 2325 Valley Road, Box 190, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

The "...season to be jolly," and hopefully generous, is almost upon us again. We hope, this year, you will give a gift membership to someone you know. We will be happy to send that person an acknowledgement of your gift.

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Jane's Journal

Jane Birge, Editor

Diatomaceous Earth — quite a mouthful for just a handful of dust! I think this is the first time, in my six years of editing this magazine that we have sort of a "theme." This September/October 1990 issue includes "everything you always wanted to know about diatomaceous earth, but were afraid to ask."

Included in this issue is Don Thornburg's article, "New Dimensions in Pest Control," several letters written by the readership concerning DE, a mention of the product in George Albrecht's column, "A Family Portrait," and a mention in Jim Smith's "Question Box." Hope you enjoy all the information, and let me know what *your* findings are.

Another article that you won't want to miss in this issue is Anne Tinari's review of a new Time-Life book, published recently. It's a beautiful book and it was a pleasure to work with the photo editor. Anne, in her review, tells you where you can get a copy.

More PR is coming its way in the form of articles on African violets (using AVSA sources) in the Los Angeles Times and Redbook magazine.

I have received quite a few questions about the submission of the black and white photographs for the AVM. Please, do not go to the bother of buying and processing black and white film just for this magazine. The truth is, I receive more color photographs from the affiliates, and they work just as well as the black and white. A big reminder, however, please don't send me slides for the inside black and white photos. A print (in color) is preferred.

Continue submitting your color slides for the inside color pages. Just remember, when taking pictures of your prize-winning plants,

remove all ribbons, try and use a pastel background, and take lots of different views. The Lakeshore African Violet Society of Illinois takes some of the best slides I've seen in a long while. Their photographer is Bob Hassenauer of Glenview, IL, and he deserves some praise.

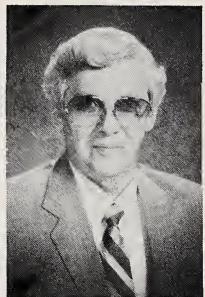
I recently received my June 1990 issue of the Early Morn African Violet Group, Inc. Newsletter, affiliated with the Gesneriad Council of Australia and New Zealand. What a surprise it was, while looking through it, to find a mention of several articles from this magazine! This newsletter is one of the best that I get (not just because they say nice things about the AVM), so, if you would like to start getting it, please write: Membership Secretary, Mrs. Leah Longayroux, 8 Denmark Street, Kew, Victoria, Australia 3101, and inquire. It is always full of a lot of interesting articles. Marjorie Lambert must be the editor, because at the end of this issue there is an acknowledgement to the contributors. The Australians must be growing some beautiful violets down there.

Well, in my last column, I mentioned how I thought it would be nice if we had flags from the different countries where we have members, on the mantle here in the office. It all started with the lovely Swedish flag Ingrid Lindskog presented to us in Boston. I guess no one but Joan Halford reads my column, because to date, we have received only one more — Republic of South Africa — a beautiful flag. Thanks, Joan. No Canadian flag, no Japanese flag — just Sweden and RSA. Maybe I should ask for the different state flags, from the good ol' U.S.?

Hope you enjoy the supplement of Judges, Affiliated Clubs, and Commercial Members, included with this issue.

SHOWS AND JUDGES

*Bill Foster
3610 Gray Drive
Mesquite, TX 75150*



The trip to Boston was great and I feel sure all that attended did, indeed, catch the "New England Spirit." Ruth Warren and Olga MacLean and all their committees are to be commended for presenting such a nice convention and show.

The highlight of our Judges Breakfast was a very interesting and enlightening program on gesneriads presented by L. T. Ozio. L. T. showed some beautiful slides and gave us pointers on judging gesneriads. We are very fortunate to have qualified members to help us better understand the showing and judging of the "kissin' cousins." L. T. Ozio is our AVSA third vice president, Library Chairman, AVSA Senior Judge, Judges' Teacher, and a gesneriad judge as well. Thanks for your time, efforts, and knowledge, L. T. We appreciate you more than you know.

We will share some of the items that came up for answers and clarification at the Judges Breakfast, as well as the Shows & Judges Committee meeting:

1. In a recent show, a plant had two leaves growing from the base of the plant (like an off-shoot from the root). Should this have been considered a sucker?

This will be better covered in our Handbook revision. A paragraph has been added that, in essence, states that, although judges are certain that the two leaves will become a sucker, for the purposes of judging, they do not meet the definition of a sucker. The purpose of this definition is to give the benefit of doubt to the exhibitor. Of course, if the judges determine that this is a sucker that has not been completely removed, then points should be deducted under condition.

2. Should a designer be allowed to use a hot glue gun to fasten the blossoms at a desired

position in arrangement classes?

This is one of those questions that is not too easy to answer. If the designer uses the glue gun well, and the blossoms are not damaged, it would be difficult for the judges to detect. The hot glue might tend to seal the stem and keep the blossom fresh, or the heat could cause it to deteriorate. Designers sometimes are experts at doing all sorts of things to hold a design together. Remember, we are to look for "beauty and not flaws" so unless the glue is messy, noticeable and unattractive, we probably would not even know hot glue had been used so we couldn't deduct points.

3. May we have a class for strawberry jars or multiple plantings of African violets in the Horticulture Division of our schedule?

It would make life a lot happier for the judges if such a class was omitted. Our latest Handbook has no scale of points for judging strawberry jars and other multiple planted African violets. Most judges, through kindness, would probably go ahead and judge the class. However, it is not fair to you or the judges because you have gone to a great deal of trouble to exhibit this and the judges have no scale of points so they really can't properly judge your exhibit.

The Shows & Judges Committee was asked to rule on the classification of plants with "variable blossoms." For example, if the description states that the blossom is variable, "white, but sometimes has red eye," or it might say, "lavender, sometimes with geneva edge." The committee ruled that a plant that was blooming solid white should be classified with the white classes, if it has a white blossom with a red eye, then it should be classified as a multicolor. Likewise, if the lavender blossom had a geneva edge, classify it with "edged," if not, classify it with the "lavender" class. It would be very confusing to the public to see a

red and white blooming plant win "Best White" in the show. Unless we classify them by the way they are blooming, this could happen.

The question was asked concerning the senior judges cards showing only the issue date. Some judges were concerned that a club that had asked them to judge might not be able to determine if their card was valid. The policy on senior judges is: a white senior judges card is issued every year for the three consecutive years you are required to take the exam. Upon completion of the third exam, provided you have a passing grade, you will be issued a permanent gold card. This card does show only the date of issue. I do not think a judge would accept an invitation to judge with an invalid status. If a club is in doubt, they probably would not extend an invitation in the first place. If they wish to check the status of a judge, they can call or write the Shows & Judges Chairman.

In closing the column for this issue, I want to urge all exhibitors, especially in Design, to be sure and read their schedules and adhere to the rules set forth in them. And remember, the schedule is the "law of the show" provided it is not in violation of AVSA rules. It is just as heartbreaking for the judges to have to refuse to judge an exhibit as it is for the exhibitor to not have it judged. If an exhibit does not conform to the schedule and is judged anyway, it is an injustice to other exhibitors who have been so careful to abide by the rules in the schedule.

The revised pages for Handbook are now available from the AVSA Office. The cost is \$3.50 postpaid.

Have a nice autumn!

Looking for Back Issues ...

Douglas Gregory of San Antonio, TX is looking for Volumes II and III, Issues 1 - 4 of the African Violet Magazine, to complete his set. Anyone interested in selling these issues should make Douglas an offer.

Send all inquiries to: Douglas Gregory, 212 Briarcliff Drive, San Antonio, TX 78213, telephone 512-342-5442.

FREE LEAVES!

A well-known African violet grower and long-time AVSA Commercial Member is offering an outstanding incentive to all affiliated clubs, to help with the promotion of new memberships.

Anne Tinari, of Tinari Greenhouses, and current Membership and Promotion Committee Chairman, is offering a box of fresh-cut African violet leaves, one leaf for each member of the qualifying affiliate.

In order to qualify, an affiliated club must obtain six or more NEW AVSA memberships. The names and addresses of the new members, plus the amount due, should be sent to the AVSA office in Beaumont, TX. The names should be sent under the affiliated club's name. A copy of these memberships should then be sent to Anne Tinari, and in return the club will receive the box of leaves.

The leaf cuttings will be sent UPS, 2nd Day Air; therefore a \$5.00 postal charge must accompany the request. The offer will end October 15, 1990.

The affiliated club will also receive the \$1.00 rebate on these new memberships.

Anne Tinari's address is: 2325 Valley Road, Box 190, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

Who can pass up buying plants at an AVSA Convention?

The California Agriculture Department wants to make your return trip home as easy as possible. So before leaving for the 1991 AVSA Convention, simply contact your local agriculture department and find out if you need any type of certification from California to let you return home with your plants. An inspection station is scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 1991, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., for your convenience.

Affiliate 'appenings

*Lyndall Owens
P. O. Box 288
Beaumont, TX 77704*



THE MONTGOMERY AVS, AL — "Violets Go Victorian." Peg Phythyon, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Picasso, Pamela, Hello Sunshine*, best in show, *Picasso*, best design, "Fun With Holidays," best semi, *Magic Blue*, *Donna Ferguson*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Emiko, Granger's Polaris, Marshlands*, 2nd best in show, *Sortilege, Mary Moseley*; best trailer, *Falling Snow, Eleanor Robinson*; best miniature, *Snuggle Bear*, best gesneriad, *Aeschynanthus hildebrandtii*, sweepstakes, *Peg Phythyon*.

MEMPHIS AVS, TN — "Violets in Victorian Elegance." Barbara Poole, chairman. Winners: Best in show, *Apache Maiden, Chesley Poole*; 2nd best in show, *Petite Jewel*, best AVSA collection, *Little Katherine, Precious Pink, Little Pro*, best miniature, *Petite Jewel*, best semi, *Little Pro*, best trailer, *Texas Brazo Trail, Katherine Steele*; sweepstakes (horticulture), sweepstakes, best arrangement, *Iona Pair*; sweepstakes (design), *Peggy Adamson*.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN AV COUNCIL, CO — "Say It With Violets." Judie Lalanne and Nelly Levine, co-chairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Cutie, Everdina, Rob's Starberry*, best miniature and 2nd best in show, *Cutie*, sweepstakes (34 blue ribbons), Nelly Levine; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Cutie, Optimara Little Amethyst, Paradise Baby, Judie Lalanne*; best in show and best trailer, *Wood Trail, Betty Margetts*; best semi, *Denny Boo, Fran Ratté*; best design, *Coleen Clark*; best gesneriad, *E. Strawberry Patch, Ingrid Little*.

SAN MATEO COUNTY AVS, CA — "In Tune With Music." Thelma Walther, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Magic Blue, Rob's Quixotic Lad, Snuggles*, best in show, *Magic Blue*, 2nd best in show, *Crushed Velvet*, best miniature, *Everdina*, best semi, *Magic Blue, JoAnna Behl*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Phantom Flash, Kiwi Dazzle, Redlands Pride*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Enid Wood*; best design, "Poor Butterfly," sweepstakes (design), *Heather Morgan*.

CAPITAL CITY AVS, CA — "Violets in Paradise." Oscar Faore, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Something Special, Kiwi Dazzle, Wrangler's Jealous Heart, Delta Carpenter*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Saratoga Trail, Melba Love, Altamont*, best in show, *Saratoga Trail*, best trailer, *Saratoga Trail*, best semi, *Irette*, best gesneriad, *Chirita Hisakee*, sweepstakes, *Barbara Elkin*; 2nd best in show, *The California, Twila deViend*; best design, "Paradise in a Small Package," *Ruby Roloff*; best miniature, *Bokey Corral, Oscar Faore*.

GEORGIA AV JUDGES SOCIETY, "Saint Patrick's Saintpaulias." Laura Walker, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Sheer Romance, Kiwi Dazzle, Nortex's Snowkist Haven*, best in show, *Sheer Romance*, 2nd best in show, *Midnight Romance, Trevia McDaniel*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Little Pro, Precious Pink, Teen Craze*, best semi, *Little Pro, Sara Carson*; best design, "The Emerald Garden," sweepstakes (design), *Laura Walker*; best trailer,

Tattle Trail, best miniature, *Little Cameo*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Ellie Jordan*; best gesneriad, *Chrysanthemum pulchella, Joan Cumpton*.

OAKVILLE AVS, Ontario, Canada — "Violets - Love in Bloom." Eva Lindstol, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Granger's Wonderland, Roundabout, Maiden*, best semi, *Lucky Lee Ann, Betty Cunningham*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *The King, L'Ambassadeur, Alamo Red*, best in show, *Fantaisiste*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Tony Hulleman*; 2nd best in show, *Fickle Flirt, Gerry Hulleman*; best design, "Midnight Romance," *Ruth Bradshaw*; best gesneriad, *E. Chocolate Velour*, sweepstakes (design) *Eva Lindstol*.

BATON ROUGE AVS, LA — "Violets in the Gay Nineties." Shirley Gomez, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Mary Craig, Picasso, Kilauea*, best design, "Ye Olde Sweet Shops," sweepstakes (runnerup), *Denice Lindsley*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Granger's Wonderland, Cactus Rose, This Bud's Mine*, best in show, *Cactus Rose, Josie Ragusa*; 2nd best in show, *Ragusa Special*, best gesneriad, *Cadonanthanthus Aurora*, best trailer, *Dazzle Trail, Fran Spear*; best miniature, *Little Rose Quartz, Sadie Plauche*; best semi, *Bogeyman, Ruth Jones*; sweepstakes, *Penny Brenner*.

ALBUQUERQUE AVC, NM — "Picture a Violet." Mrs. Charles Iskra, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Radiant Haven, Anna Kreeck, Lela Marie*, best in show, *Radiant Haven*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Kitty Smith*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Snow Rose, Kiwi Dazzle, Molokai, Mabel Tanner*; 2nd best in show, *Granger's Wonderland*, best design, "With Loving Memories," best semi, *Precious Pink, Cal Iskra*; best trailer, *Saintpaulia Pendula, Louisa Sando*; best miniature, *Mickey Mouse, Estrella Minnich*; best gesneriad, *Strep. Blue Dolphin, Pat Rowton*; sweepstakes (design), *Clella Wiley*.

LONG ISLAND AVS, NY — "Hooked on Classics." Jeanne Maier & Anita Rudolph, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Optimara Molokai, Optimara Rocky Mountain, Optimara Nevada*, best trailer, *Baby Brian*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Betty Raskopf*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Opt. Molokai, Kiwi Dazzle, Rainbow's Superchance*, best in show, *Kiwi Dazzle, Dorothy Vogt*; 2nd best in show, *Opt. Little Moonstone, Dolores O'Sullivan*; best design, "Charlie Chaplin Movies," sweepstakes (design), *Diane Lohan*; best gesneriad, *Strep. Adonis, Jack Zippin*.

CENTRAL JERSEY AVS, NJ — "Violet Magic." Dale Jasaitis, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *French Lilac, Chris Leppard, Rhapsodie Sabrina*, best in show, *French Lilac, Dale Jasaitis*; 2nd best in show, *Heritage Frolic*, best miniature, *Half Pint*, best semi, *Heritage Frolic*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Helen Ryan*; best design, "Pulling a Rabbit Out of a Hat," sweepstakes (design), best gesneriad, *Episcia Cleopatra, Jan Murasko*; best trailer, *Sapphire Trail, Charlotte Lynn*.

ILLINOIS AVS — "Violets - Thirty Five and Growing." Jean Willey, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Shawna, Granger's Wonderland, Bee Jay*, 2nd best in show, *Rob's April Storm, Joan Pugsley*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Ness' Silver Cypress, Mindi Brooke, Bertha*, best in show, *Mindi Brooke, Jean Willey*; best design, "Illinois, Land of the Prairie," *Maude Teater*; best trailer, *Rob's Stickey Wicket, Celia Schafer*; best miniature & best semi, *Rob's April Storm*; best gesneriad, *Episcia Silver Skies, Barbara Goodsell*; sweepstakes (54 blue ribbons), *Janice Bruns*.

SUNCOAST AVS, FL — "Love Is A Violet." Sheryl Minon & Sandra Williams, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Sheryl's Chelsea Love, Love Spots, Fisherman's Paradise*, best in show, *Vampire's Kiss*, 2nd best in show, *Fisherman's Paradise, Sheryl Minor*; 2nd best AVSA collection, sweepstakes, *Sharon Miller*; best miniature, *Little Rose Quartz, James Kelley*; best gesneriad, *C. Aurora, Sandra Williams*; best semi, *Optimara Columbus*, best trailer, *Tamiami Trail, Karen Boosinger*; best arrangement & design, "Love Is A Violet," *Linda Thompson*.

THIMBLE ISLANDS AVS, CT — "Violets in Connecticut." Barbara E. LeMere, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *China Pink, Picasso, O. Mississippi*, best in show, *Picasso, Barbara LeMere*; 2nd best in show, *Crystal Cameo, Buzz Clem*; best design, "Little Acorn," best miniature, *Tourmaline*, sweepstakes (horticulture & design), *John Cacace*; best trailer, *Pixie Blue, Louise Cacace*; best gesneriad, *Tinker Bell, Lou Nagy*.

AVS OF ROCHESTER, NY — "I'd Rather Be In Rochester." Faye Wagman, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Harbor Blue, Happy Cricket, Robert Croteau*, best in show, *Robert Croteau*, best semi, *Little Pro, Doug Burdick*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Nana, Chris Leppard, High Noon, Thelma Hansen*; 2nd best in show, *Twinkle, Mary Christopher*; best design, "Industry on Parade," sweepstakes (design), *Pat Galante*; best trailer, *Teen Trail*, sweepstakes (horticulture), best miniature, *Party Girl, Faye Wagman*; best gesneriad, *Sinningia Ruby Red, Jeff Dunderdale*.

SUNDOWNER AVS, LA — "Raisin Violets." Kathy D. Oufnac, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Pensie Orchid, Bertha, LA Sugarcane*, best in show, *Pensie Orchid*, best design, "Cut Flowers - Raisin Violets," *Sophie Cole*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Lela Marie, Just Whisper, Marvel*, sweepstakes, *Phyllis Harris*; 2nd best in show, *Sapphire Trail*, best trailer, *Sapphire Trail*, best semi, *Lil Pro, Anite Dantoni*; best miniature, *Precious Glow, Norma Flynn*; best gesneriad, *C. Cleopatra, Kathy Oufnac*.

RICHMOND AVS, VA — "A World Beauty." Sharon Long, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Magic Blue, Precious Pink, Lovely Linda*, best in show, *Precious Pink*, best trailer, *Dancin Trail*, best miniature, *Fantasy Toyland*, best semi, *Precious Pink*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Alice Grundy*; 2nd best in show, *Splendiferous, Ruth Tate*; best design, "England," sweepstakes (design), *Sharon Long*; best gesneriad, *Chirita Sinensis, Barbara Peterson*.

BERGAN COUNTY AVS, NJ — "Reach For The Stars." Fred Hill & Florence Freedman, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Ms. Pretty Pink, Ms. Debbie, Henrikas Januskevicius*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Little Pro, Little Doll, Snuggles*, best in show, *Nortex's Honey Comb Haven*, 2nd best in show, *Snuggles*, best trailer, *Daisy Trail*, best miniature, *Opt. Little Pearl*, best semi, *Little Doll*, best gesneriad, *C. California Gold*, sweepstakes, *Florence DiLiberti*; best design, "Aquarius - The Water Carrier," *Linda LoPresti*.

AVS OF NORTH JERSEY - "Violets Go To School." Mrs. Becky Johnson, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Picasso, Bloomin' Fantasy, Lady Diana*, best design, "Violets Go To School," best miniature, *Merilee*, sweepstakes (design), *Becky Johnson*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Nortex's Petticoat Haven, Midnight Romance, Razzberry Frost, Emilia Rykowski*; best in show, *Raspberry Sorbet*, 2nd best in show, *Dance Time*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Steve Moran*; best trailer, *Indian Trail*, best semi, *Wee Be, Bob Kurzynski*; best gesneriad, *S. Diplotricha, Toni Rogan*.

T.H.E. AV CLUB, AL — "Happiness Is ... African Violets." Jeri Whitlock, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Phantom Flash, Painted Sunrise, Apache Dream*, best in show, *Phantom Flash*, 2nd best in show, *Texas Blue Angel*, best gesneriad, *Strep. Black Panther*, sweepstakes, *Jeri Whitlock*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Mr. Excitement, Big Bird, Painted Sunrise, Hiawatha Eason*; best design, *Wendy Gulledge*; best trailer, *Rob's Stickey Wicket*, best miniature, *Josephine*, best semi, *Little Pro, Romona Hodges*.

COLUMBUS AVS, OH — "Easter Parade of Violets." Jane McCain, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Opt. Little Amethyst, Opt. Little Opal, Opt. Little Sapphire*, 2nd best in show, *Swing Along*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Diana Eakin*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Rosemarie, Crystallaire, Amazing Grace, Betty Schulz*; best in show, *Ruthie Gee, Jane McCain*; best design, "In Joseph's Lovely Garden," best trailer, *Trailing Love Spots, Emilie Savage*; best miniature, *Sensational Sandra, Julie Hickson*; best gesneriad, *Strawberry Fields, Fran Lane*; sweepstakes (design), *Hildred Bump*.

AVS OF GREATER TULSA, OK — "Violets & Memories." Mrs. Billie Kneale, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Bertha, Janice Ann, Lela Marie*; best in show, *Bertha*, 2nd best in show, *Surprise Party*, best miniature, *Everdina*, best semi, *Surprise Party, Mrs. Linda Bjorkmann*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *The King, Apache Fire, Wrangler's Branding Time*, best design, "Picture Perfect Memories," sweepstakes, *Mrs. Linda McGaha*; best trailer, *Dancing Trail, Mrs. Dorothy Harris*.

AFRICAN VIOLET FANCIERS, INC., IL — "African Violet Geometrics." Helen Recoy, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Dominique, Desert Dawn, Amazing Grace*, best in show, *Amazing Grace, Bob Shepherdson*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Houston, Creole Royal, Adeline Krogman, Jan Shepherdson*; 2nd best in show, *Knock Out Blue*, best miniature, *Knock Out Blue*, best semi, *Roxie, Lucille Losweski*; best design, "Classic Music," best trailer, *Jet Trail*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Karline*, sweepstakes, *Florise Hogan*.

FIRST AUSTIN AVS, TX — "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." Leona Herres, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Pat Champagne, Wee Hummer, Tip Top*, best in show, *Pat Champagne*, 2nd best in show, *Magic Trail*, best trailer, *Magic Trail*, best miniature, *Little Cameo*, best semi, *Wee Be*, best gesneriad, *E. Kee Wee*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Dolores Gibbs*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Painted Sunrise, Alamo Red, Raspberry Rose, Leona Herres*; best design, "Back to the Future," sweepstakes (design), *Pat Freeman*.

CORPUS CHRISTI AVS, TX — "Twenty Years With African Violets." Kay Bircher, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Pink Energy, First Child, Bertha*, best in show, *Bertha*, 2nd best in show, *Pink Energy, Jeanette Kocurek*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *China Pink, Granger's Wonderland, Christmas Candy-O, Glenda Ehrlich*; best design, "Poppins With Violets," *Kay Bircher*; best miniature,

Optimara Little Tourmaline, Virginia Thompson; sweepstakes, Sarah Stensland.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AVS, CA — "O Hollywood." Bernadine Poulsen, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, best in show, *Cinnamon Girl*, best design, *Blossom Kanouse*; best trailer, *Jet Trail*, Sue Capland; best gesneriad, *Episcia Kee Wee*, Floyd Lawson; sweepstakes (horticulture), Carol Sisson; Judges Council Award (most gold ribbons), Bernadine Poulsen.

TOP CHOICE AVS, LA — "Violets Along The Red River." Ruby Parker, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Frosted Whisper*, *Something Special*, *Wonderland*, best in show, *Wilson Rhea*, 2nd best in show, *Wonderland*, best design, "State Fair and You Are There," sweepstakes, best semi, *Precious Pink*, Phyllis King; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Ice Fantasy*, Bertha, Louise Croteau, best miniature, *Snuggles Bear*, Dorothy Rickertson; best trailer, *Pixie Pink*, Doris Thomas; best gesneriad, *Episcia Kee Wee*, Annette Westbrook.

AVS OF PENSACOLA, FL — "Violets Over Pensacola." George Starr, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Pensi Secret*, *Kiss of Fire*, *Hello Sunshine*, best in show, *Hello Sunshine*, 2nd best in show, *Sybil*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *George Starr*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Astral Peace*, *Orion*, *Auber Girl*, best gesneriad, *K. Strawberry Fields*, Estelle Starr; best design, "City of Five Flags," *Peggy Walsh*; best trailer, *Angel Wings*, best miniature, *Linda's Joy*, sweepstakes (design), Jean Jones; best semi, *Winnie Woo*, Julia Dyer.

HERITAGE AVS OF LONG ISLAND, NY — "Pirates!" Barbara Kustek, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Heritage Frolic*, *Snuggles*, *Missie Miss*, best in show, *Falling Snow*, 2nd best in show, *Missie Miss*, best design, best trailer, *Falling Snow*, best miniature, *Junie Moon*, best semi, *Missie Miss*, best gesneriad, *Sinningia Concinna*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Anne Lee*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *David Lee*, *Splendiferous*, *Happy Cricket*, sweepstakes (design), Barbara Kuster.

AVS OF SOUTH BAY, Los Altos, CA — "Symphony of Violets." Irene Thomas, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *High Tide*, *Sweet Water*, *Maas' Mary Lou*, 2nd best in show, *High Tide*, Dorothy Gawienowski; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Anna Kreech*, *Happy Cricket*, *Snow Rose*, best in show, *Picasso*, best mini, *Opt. Rose Quartz*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Ray Britton*; best design, "Symphony of Violets," Evelyn Allustiarti; best trailer, *Blustery Trail*, Ruth Wasserman; best semi, *Irish Angel*, Celine Chase; sweepstakes (design), Irene Thomas.

THE EDMONTON AVS, Canada — "Victorian Violets." Lynnette Mitchell, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Granger's Wonderland*, *Suncoast Sugar Candy*, *Kiwi Dazzler*, 2nd best in show, *Kiwi Dazzler*, Arlene Smith; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Rob's Crazy Daze*, *Pay Dirt*, *Irish Angel*, Doreen Smith; best in show, *Captain James T. Kirk*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Country Music*, Margaret Jarratt; best design, "First Dance," sweepstakes (design), Fran Graham; best trailer, *Snowy Trail*, Lynnette Mitchell; best semi, *Sugar Doll*, Carol Eros.

AVS OF GREATER MONTREAL, Canada — "Violets Ahoy!" Greta Durand, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Rob's Omega*, *Memories*, *Red Lion*, 2nd best in show, *Teeney Crocus*, best miniature, *Teeney Crocus*, best semi, *Petite Pat*, sweepstakes (horticulture - tie), Irene Henry; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Snuggles*, *Snuggles Delight*, *Snuggles Clown*, sweepstakes (design & horticulture), Greta Durand; best in show, *Melody Kimi*, Therese

Decelles; best trailer, *Blustery Trail*, Charles Laws; best gesneriad, *Strep. Strawberry Jam*, Dick Harriman.

FIRST GOLDSBORO AVS, NC — "Violets on Parade." Robbie Yelverton & Anna Level, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Precious Pink*, *Jubilant Spirit*, *Magic Spirit*, best miniature, *Mickey Mouse*, best semi, *Little Princess*, 2nd best AVSA collection, *Happy Cricket*, *Nortex's Snowkist Haven*, *Mister Excitement*, Frances Deans; best in show, *Apache Secret*, sweepstakes (horticulture), 2nd best in show, *The King*, Mae Bowen; best trailer, *Snowy Trail*, best gesneriad, *Streptocarpus Ilisa*, Ethel Twiford.

AVS OF SAN FRANCISCO, CA — "Victorian Violets." Frances McMahon, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Sea Urchin Beach*, *Maria Androlina*, *Happy Cricket*, best in show, *Sea Urchin Beach*, best trailer, *Falling Snow*, best semi, *Shutterbug*, sweepstakes (horticulture) (33 blue ribbons), Gary R. Beck; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Blackie Bryant*, *Bloomin' Miracle*, *French Lilac*, *Don Thurnburg*; 2nd best in show, *S. Pendula var. Kizarae*, best gesneriad, *E. Blue Nile*, *June Fallaw*; best in design, "In the Conservatory," sweepstakes (design), Janet Fox; best miniature, *Wichita Baby*, Fred Grafelman.

BREW CITY VIOLETEERS, WI — "Hey, Everybody - Look What I Grew!" Ruth Mengsol, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Saintpaulia Pendula Kizarae*, *Saintpaulia Orbicularis Purpurea*, *Saintpaulia Diplotricha Punter #7*, Ruth Mengsol; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Ruffles N' Lace*, *Swamp Turtle*, *Cherry Brandy*, best miniature, *Opt. Rose Quartz*, Nancy Berry; best in show, *Opt. Ontario*, 2nd best in show, *Saintpaulia Velutina*, best trailer, *Pixie Blue*, best semi, *Wee Be*, best gesneriad, *Streptocarpus Captains Blood*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Karter Wilkening; best design, "Hey - Isn't That Cute? It's So Little," sweepstakes (design), Terri Torbeck.

CLASSIC CITY AVS, GA — "Decades of Violets." Margie Kothiar, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Teen Craze*, *Sugar Doll*, *Ruffled Joy*, sweepstakes (horticulture & design), Sara Carson; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Granger's Wonderland*, *Flash Dance*, *Coral Glo*, best in show, *Coral Glo*, best trailer, *Dazzle Trail*, Lois DuVall; 2nd best in show, *Georgia Lover*, Joan Cumpton; best design, Hubert Thomas; best miniature, *Petite Jewel*, best semi, *Wee Be*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Cleopatra*, Jean Wright.

FIRST AVS OF SPARTANBURG, SC — "Circus of Violets." Shelby Compton, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Spring Prom*, *Precious Pink*, *Little Pro*, best miniature, *Rhythm Rascal*, Martha Young; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Wrangler's Dixie Celebration*, *Peppermint Fling*, Michiko, best in show, *Picasso*, 2nd best in show, *Precious Pink*, best semi, *Precious Pink*, best gesneriad, *Sinningia China Teacup*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Ernestine Wright; best design, "Creative Curves on the Trapeze," sweepstakes (design), Mary Ann Kirby; best trailer, *Falling Snow*, Julie Silliman.

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AVSA Commercials

A Closer Look

David Buttram
P. O. Box 193
Independence, MO 64051



Jeannette's Jesneriads

We resume our quest for AVSA commercial members by traveling "way down yonder to New Orleans" to visit the home of Jeannette Domiano.

After a little bit of searching, I found Jeannette's lovely home in an upscale neighborhood in Terrytown, just across the wide Mississippi River from New Orleans. It is here, in two rooms, that she hybridizes, grows and sells African violets.

It all began simply enough when Jeannette won a packet of seeds from Ronn Nadeau. Her interest up to that point had been in growing and showing plants. The new seedlings kindled a creative desire to develop what no one else had.

From that first group came one plant that Jeannette kept and grew. She named it 'Our Naked Joy' and from it came her second cultivar, 'I Am Woman'—named for a popular song



Floor to ceiling benches devoted to Jeannette's African violets.

of the period. In August, 1983, both plants were registered with AVSA.

The names of the two varieties were indicative of the earthy names Jeannette would continue to choose for her plants. Her current list includes 'Bedroom Eyes,' 'Beguiling,' 'Makin' Romance,' 'My Wicked Ways,' and 'Shameless Flirt.'

Jeannette acknowledged that several of her names have been controversial and even offensive to some, but justified herself by saying, "...African violets are very sensuous and they have a lot of life. There is the sexual crossing with the hybridizing. Flowers mean love, too. It all goes together. And besides, it's fun."

Among the names you can see Jeannette's penchant for alliteration: 'Lusty Lilac,' 'Natchurly Nawlins,' 'Ravished Rose,' and 'Plenty of Pepper.' Even the name of her business reflects her tendency to play upon the human eye and ear.

Although Jeannette sells by mail, she enjoys visitors. "They come from all over. Sometimes they just come to talk about African violets,

which I enjoy," she said. Her current list has also 40 of her own hybrids plus several other gesneriads.

Jeannette's cultivars are known for their large-growing habit. She constantly strives for plants that groom easily for show. Although she has done some work with miniatures and semiminiatures, she feels that there are many excellent hybridizers already doing an outstanding job.

Likewise, Jeannette was reluctant to work with variegated foliage, because fellow club member and neighbor, Barbara (Cookie) Sisk was specializing in that area. Now that Cookie is no longer hybridizing, Jeannette has introduced Tommie Lou foliage, including four on her 1990 list.

The promise of yellow African violets from Nolan Blansit, is of particular interest to Jeannette. They hold, what she feels, is the future for different hues and color combinations. Many other hybridizers are anxious to get started with the yellow gene, as they were with the Tommie Lou foliage, back in the early 1970s.



Beautiful hanging baskets provide shipping stock of a wide variety of gesneriads.

We paused from our talk so Jeannette could show me photos of winning plants. Several photographs had been sent to her from across the country. Her Second Place Display Table at the recent Dixie African Violet Society convention was the source of well-deserved pride. Other photographs from previous conventions and shows give her a sense of fulfillment and accomplishment.

Jeannette's fertilizing regimen is simple enough. Young plants in up to 2-1/2" pots receive a constant feeding of 20-20-20 at half strength, plus one drop of Superthrive per gallon. Larger plants, in 4" pots, get 12-36-14, with two drops of Superthrive per gallon.

Dissatisfied with her earlier soil mixes, Jeannette is trying a new formula of equal parts of Volkmann's Soil Mix and Optimara Soil Mix.

"I used to mix my own soil mix, but the Canadian peat moss has left a lot to be desired the last couple of years," explains Jeannette regarding the change. Jeannette also added that the Canadian peat varies greatly in pH.

Jeannette has installed two automatic misters which are new to the market and is favorably impressed. These misters provide 24-hour protection by spraying Pyrethrin intermittently at 7-1/2 minute intervals. Pyrethrin is a naturally derived organic substance that is very effective against blossom thrips and most flying insects, but is harmless to mammals. Jeannette is convinced that the misters provide the best thrips control she has ever had.

After a photo-taking session, I was on my way back across the Mississippi with a friend who was acting as my chauffeur for the day. We headed straightaway for Bart's, which is one of my favorite seafood restaurants. Bart's is located on Lake Ponchartrain and serves a seafood platter fit for a king. Starting with a bowl of seafood gumbo, I launched into a heaping platter of shrimp, scallops, crabs, frog legs and so much more. What a way to finish a day ...

**Starting to think
about the holidays?**

Don't forget AVSA!

Convention 1991

Come to the Golden State of California!

*Cathy Cornibe
Publicity Chairman*

If you haven't already made your plans, then please make them now! Join in the fun at the 45th Annual AVSA Convention, "Violets In The Golden State," which will be held in Santa Clara, California. Plan your trip for April 22-28, 1991.

Enjoy your stay at the new Doubletree Hotel, adjoining the Santa Clara Convention Center. Besides their luxurious rooms, they have a pool, whirlpool, sauna, exercise room, and much more! Use your guest privileges at the adjacent Santa Clara Golf and Tennis Club, where you can enjoy the lighted tennis courts and tournament-class 18-hole golf course.

Your biggest decision will be what to do, because there is so much to choose from. There is swimming, surfing, fishing, or just watching the beautiful sunset on the nearby Pacific Ocean. You might try a wine-tasting tour since you will be in one of the largest premium wine-producing regions. San Francisco isn't very far away, so it is hard to resist visiting the Golden Gate Bridge and Chinatown. Or do you still enjoy the thrill of a roller coaster ride? Right next door to the Doubletree is the fabulous 100-acre Great America Theme Park, which is open on weekends. It is the largest family entertainment center in Northern California and contains the worlds' largest carousel. Great America not only has thrilling rides but it also has several stage, screen, and arena shows that will provide something for everyone in your family.

Attending an AVSA Convention is so exciting; whether it is your first or 45th. Come to the 1991 AVSA Convention in Santa Clara, California and see all of the "Violets In The Golden State." Join in the fun!



AVSA AFFILIATES

*Irene Merrell
Affiliate Chairman
W283 Hillendale Drive
Oconomowoc, WI 53066*

As Bill Foster moves on to Shows and Judges Chairman, I have been appointed as your new Affiliate Chairman. It is going to be a fun, fresh and exciting learning experience, especially getting to know you better. I know Bill will be as successful in his new endeavor as he has been as your Affiliate Chairman. I will try my best to do a good job for you and AVSA.

I would like to begin with my committee. My vice chairman is Helen Geisler of Milwaukee, who is an advanced judge, past president of Milwaukee AVS, Wisconsin Council of AV Clubs, and the Wisconsin AVSA Judges Council. She is a conscientious, dependable, knowledgeable worker, serving as 1983 AVSA Convention Chairman, Show Chairman, Judges Chairman and AVSA Representative for local and state clubs. She is frequently asked to judge in Minnesota, Illinois, and Wisconsin.

The third member of my committee is Mrs. Mickey Eberle of Menomonee Falls, WI. She is an advanced judge, ways and means chairman for the Wisconsin Council, a member of the Milwaukee AVS, serving as staging chairman and worked on entries committee for the 1983 AVSA convention. She, too, judges frequently in Minnesota, Illinois and Wisconsin. She is a joy to work with.

I am a senior judge, judging school teacher and have worked as a consultant at AVSA conventions. Our goal is to be helpful as possible, to you, our Very Important Members. It is through you that we can be a strong organization — sharing and helping each other.

Please feel free to write to me if you have any questions about your clubs, show schedules, forming new clubs or our society. I don't guarantee to have all the answers, but I will try to get an answer for you or refer your question to someone who might.

Please try to send a rough draft of your show schedule three months in advance of your show in case we need to make adjustments. Include a \$5.00 application fee when requesting the AVSA Award Packet. Be sure to include two copies of your schedule. The fee was passed by the board to help defray part of the cost of the rosettes and mailings.

Our NEW "Guide For Affiliate Presidents and AVSA Representatives" booklet is available from me for \$1.50 postpaid. Every club should have one for their president and AVSA representative.

Charters will no longer be issued with each renewal. Your original charter will be your official charter and will be issued to each new club when formed. If you do not have your original charter, contact me for a duplicate.

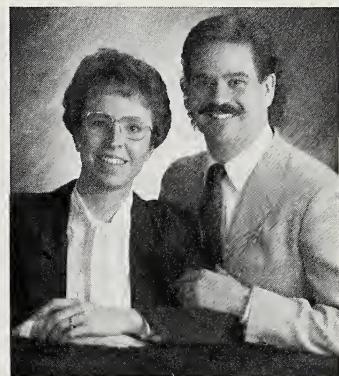
Enjoy being an AVSA member, an Affiliate member. Be an active member, participate — even the little things you do are important — appreciate each other.



Janet Fox of the AVS of San Francisco won the Tri-color award with her terrarium, "In the Conservatory" at a recent AVS show. This is her 2nd consecutive year to win the Tri-color award.

BEGINNERS COLUMN

Kent and Joyce Stork
P. O. Box 398
Arlington, NE 68002



GETTING A VIOLET TO BLOOM ON SCHEDULE

One of the most interesting things about growing African violets is how a change in culture can affect the plant. A grower can do this intentionally. A horticulturalist once described this as the art of "manipulation." It is the mastery of this art which takes the average violet grower from simply keeping the plant alive and blooming to growing a show winner.

Webster's dictionary defines *manipulate* as "to control or operate with dexterity." As we grow African violets, we need to learn which factors can be controlled, as well as how to control and adjust them.

Those who grow violets for competition are real experts at manipulating their violets. But even a beginner can have fun making a few changes and then watching the results. Probably the most rewarding "manipulation" is timing the African violet into bloom through a process known as "disbudding."

SET A DATE - FEBRUARY 14

Since the violet is the flower-of-the-month for February, let's choose February 14, Valentine's Day, as the day we want our violet in full bloom. It will have some bloom before this date, and some bloom will continue for weeks afterward, but with a little luck, the heaviest bloom will be there that day.

CHOOSING THE PLANT

The easiest way to begin this process is with a mature African violet that is already blooming. If the plant has a tendency to stay in bloom

most of the time it will work especially well.

Do not be tempted to try this process for the first time with a lot of plants. Concentrate on one or two plants. Later on, you may wish to do more at once. Even advanced growers find that they do best when they concentrate their efforts on a limited number of plants.

REPOT THE PLANT

Probably the plant chosen would benefit from being repotted. It is better to do the repotting early on in the disbudding process, so do it now.

Choose the correct size of pot. As a general rule, an African violet should be put into a pot that is about 1/3 of the span of the leaves. Some advanced growers would try some other manipulations here, but beginners will do fine following the guideline.

Use a light fluffy soil mix with plenty of coarse vermiculite and perlite which will not pack down around the root system. Violets grow more vigorously when their roots can grow freely through the soil. In the same line, avoid pressing the soil down too firmly when doing the transplanting.

Remove any older, tired-looking leaves at this time. Bury any neck or stem that is left under the leaves. The soil should come up to just below the bottom row of leaves.

PLACE IN GOOD LIGHT

If the beginner has been having some success growing violets, the best light location has

probably already been found. Violets love bright light that is not hot. If it is possible to use fluorescent lights, set the plants about 12 inches from the tubes and keep the lights on for 12 to 14 hours a day.

WATER THE PLANT CORRECTLY

Again, the beginner may have already found a successful method for watering violets if the plants are doing well. If the current method allows the plants to get quite dry between watering, it may be wise to try one of the constant watering systems offered by several of the advertisers in the *African Violet Magazine*.

Drying out too much between watering will damage tiny bud stems. A similar situation can happen if there is very dry air in the room, or if a dry warm draft is blowing across the plant. If this is the case, some humidity should be added to the immediate area. A wicking or capillary matting system does this automatically as it waters the plants. But humidity can also be added with an open bowl of water set nearby, with misting the area, or with a humidifier.

FERTILIZE

In order for the plant to continue to thrive it will need regular fertilizer. There are several different opinions on what the "right" fertilizer is in terms of producing the best bloom. Our experience is that any of several good quality violet fertilizers will work well. They are certainly better than nothing!

Do use a fertilizer that you will remember to apply regularly. Many growers use fertilizers that are mixed into every gallon of water used to water the plants. The plants constantly receive small doses of needed food which will produce more even, healthier growth.

TAKE OFF ALL THE BLOOM

Removing all the blossoms is the hardest thing for a beginner to do. Each blossom seems so precious! The key to manipulating the plant into bloom at a specific time is to restrict its blooming until approximately eight weeks before you want it to bloom. That means that all blossoms and all buds will be removed up until December 20. It should take the next eight weeks for the new buds to open into full bloom

just in time for Valentine's Day.

The blossom stems can be removed by using a small scissors. Trim the stem so that only about 1/4" is left. As you become more experienced, it may be easier to do this using other methods, but this is a reliable system for the beginner.

As new bud stems form, continue to trim each stem back before any blossoms begin to open.

THE LAST TWO MONTHS

The plant will probably grow larger during the time it is not allowed to bloom. It may need to be moved into a larger pot, following the rule that the pot be 1/3 of the leaf span. Do this without disturbing the root ball, if possible, taking great care not to break any leaves. Since the beginner is doing this for fun and not competition, this repotting can be omitted.

It may be a little more persistent about developing suckers (small secondary plants under the leaves) during this time too. Remove these as soon as it is evident that they are not blossom stems; suckers will have two pairs of leaves whereas blossom stems will show at most one pair.

If your natural light is reduced too much by cloudy or shorter days in the middle of winter (in the northern hemisphere), it may be necessary to provide a little additional artificial light to help support the plant's natural urge to bloom.

The plant will need a little more water as it reaches full bloom. Don't let it dry out now!

Heat waves, as well as other factors, can cause the plant to come into bloom a little earlier than planned. If blossom stems are already open two weeks after disbudding has ended (this would be the first week in January for our purposes), remove those bud stems. Individual blossoms that have opened by three weeks ahead of the target date (January 20) will probably not last until Valentine's Day. These individual blossoms may be trimmed off the blossom stems. Doing this will avoid having the plant be over-the-hill on February 14.

WHAT IF IT DIDN'T WORK??

Occasionally, even the most experienced

growers have failures. Try again!

There are some African violets that can be more difficult to control. Many have found that variegated-foliage plants are more reluctant to reach full bloom in eight weeks. It is wise to allow 10 or even 12 weeks for some of these varieties. Green-foliaged cultivars with very double blooms may also take up to 10 weeks to get into full bloom, and single types will often bloom out in six weeks and sometimes less! This is where the "dexterity" that Webster talked about comes in!

The cultural factors of pot size, soil, water, light, and fertilizer need to be correctly maintained throughout the disbudding period. Poor culture is tough on violets at any time, but it can especially affect the bloom cycle.

Temperatures have a pronounced effect on the blossoming, especially in the weeks when the bud stems are finally allowed to grow and open. Heat will bring the flowers up much more quickly, and cold can have the opposite effect.

GIVE IT A TRY

The process of "disbudding" will not injure an African violet plant. It is simply one of those manipulations that man can make upon the plant in order to take advantage of the natural pattern of blooming.

Learning the joy of this manipulation is risky though. You may get hooked. You may find yourself joining a club to compete with others. You may find you can easily sell plants that are in full bloom at the right time. You will love having a well-timed centerpiece plant for a special occasion.

Take the first step to winning prizes and admiration, and become one of those referred to as an "advanced" grower!

NEW! 1990 Master Variety List #5

Available end of September.
Cost: \$12.95 postpaid

COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 22 CALIFORNIA — Diablo African Violet Growers' display/sale, Willows Shopping Center, 1975 Diamond Blvd., Concord. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. Vivien Ragan, president.

SEPTEMBER 22 IOWA — Evening African Violet Club of Des Moines' sale, Botanical Center, 909 E. River Dr., Multi-purpose room. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. Kathy Mathews, president.

SEPTEMBER 22 & 23 CALIFORNIA — Heartland AVS' display/sale, Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101, San Diego. Both days, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free parking and admission. Marie Johnson and Francis Kennell, co-chairmen.

SEPTEMBER 27 - 30 OHIO — Ohio State AVS show/sale, Kingwood Center, Mansfield. Open to the public, Sept. 29 & 30, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Scheduled workshops both afternoons. Free admission. Martha Bradney, show chairman, 513-773-6603.

SEPTEMBER 28 - 30 TENNESSEE — Bluff City AVC display/sale, Park Place Mall, 1213 Park Place Center, Memphis. Sept. 28 & 29, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sept. 30, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Display is free and is readily accessible to the handicapped. For more information: Marian Zoller, 901-372-0283.

SEPTEMBER 29 & 30 ILLINOIS — Northern Illinois AVS display/sale, Friendship Park Conservatory, 395 Algonquin Rd., Des Plaines. Sept. 29, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Sept. 30, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 29 & 30 CALIFORNIA — The AVS of East Bay's display/sale, Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland. Both days, noon - 4 p.m. Free admission. For more information: 415-465-3867.

SEPTEMBER 29 & 30 MARYLAND — Sugarloaf Mountain Violet Society's first show/sale, "Those Lovin' Violets," Francis Scott Key Mall, Frederick. Take I-270 North to Exit 31-A in Frederick. Sept. 29, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Sept. 30, noon - 4 p.m. For more information: Dianne Good 301-549-1391 or Fred Moak, cochairman. Joyce Stenger, president.

SEPTEMBER 29 & 30 NEBRASKA — Omaha AVS exhibit/sale, Crossroads Mall, 72nd St. and W. Dodge Rd. Sept. 29, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Sept. 30, noon - 5 p.m.

OCTOBER 5 - 7 COLORADO — The AVS of Denver, Chapter I's show/sale, "Holidays with African Violets," Westminster Mall, Broadway Court. Oct. 5 & 6, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Oct. 7, noon - 6 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Ann Klass, show chairman, 303-420-8120.

OCTOBER 6 WASHINGTON — Saintpaulia Society of Tacoma's sale, Poole's, 6th & Union, Tacoma. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Come see our blossom display!

OCTOBER 6 & 7 CONNECTICUT — Naugatuck AVS' show/sale, "Swinging With Violets," Boothe Memorial Park Hall, Main Street (Putney) Stratford, (Exit 53S off

the Merritt Parkway). Both days, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Door prizes awarded each hour. Plenty of parking.

OCTOBER 12 & 13 TEXAS — First AVS of Dallas' display/sale, Richardson Square Mall, 501 S. Plano Rd. and Beltline, Richardson. Both days, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

OCTOBER 12 & 13 OREGON — Portland AVS' sale, Eastport Plaza Shopping Center, 4050 SE 82nd Ave. (near Holgate Blvd.), Portland. Oct. 12, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Oct. 13, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free admission. For information: Jeanette Florke, 659-6386; Fran Skorepa, 760-8997; Charlotte Smith, 771-5762.

OCTOBER 13 CALIFORNIA — Fancy Bloomers of Sonoma County AVS show/sale, "Down Home Fun," St. Mark Lutheran Church, 4325 Mayette Ave., Santa Rosa. 1 - 4 p.m. Free admission. "Ya'll come now, hear," Byron Borck, show chairman.

OCTOBER 13 & 14 ILLINOIS — Glenview/North Shore AVS display/sale, Botanic Garden, Glencoe off Lake Cook Rd. and Edens Expwy. Parking - \$3.00 non-member.

OCTOBER 13 & 14 MICHIGAN — Michigan State AVS' 28th annual show/sale, Sheraton Inn, I-75 at Pierson Rd., Flint. Show hours, noon - 5 p.m., Oct. 13; 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Oct. 14. Open to the public, free admission. Educational session Oct. 13 at 2 p.m. For information: 313-437-3833 or 313-526-4321.

OCTOBER 13 & 14 TEXAS — The AV Study Club of Houston's show/sale, "Violets are Magic," Herman Garden Center, 1500 Herman Dr., Houston. Oct. 13, 2 - 6 p.m.; Oct. 14, noon - 4 p.m. Free admission.

OCTOBER 13 & 14 CALIFORNIA — Foothill AVS show/sale, "Victorian Romance with Violets," Eastland Center, West Covina. Oct. 13, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Oct. 14, noon - 4 p.m. Free admission. For information: Lynn Lombard, 818-331-9410; Ginni McCanne, 714-624-8331.

OCTOBER 14 NEW MEXICO — Albuquerque African Violet Club's show/sale, Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120 Lomas NE, Albuquerque. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free to public. Joy Tallant, president.

OCTOBER 19 & 20 NORTH CAROLINA — The First Goldsboro AVS show/sale, Berkeley Mall, Berkeley Blvd., Goldsboro. 9:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m., both days. For information: Mae Bowen, president, 919-735-7032.

OCTOBER 19 - 21 TENNESSEE — Memphis AVS' display/sale, "Nature's Fall Splendor," Goldsmith Civic Garden Center. Oct. 19, 1 - 4:30 p.m.; Oct. 20, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Oct. 21, 1 - 4:30 p.m. Mrs. Iona Pair, show chairman.

OCTOBER 20 & 21 TEXAS — First Austin AVS display/sale, Austin Garden Center, Zilker Park. Both days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Mrs. Dolores Gibbs, show chairman.

OCTOBER 20 & 21 GEORGIA — The TARA AVC, show/sale, "Fishing for Violets," Shannon Southpark, Union City, during mall hours. Bernice McGee, show chairman, 404-474-7259; Shirley Walden, president.

OCTOBER 20 & 21 CALIFORNIA — Delta Gesneriad and African Violet Society's show/sale, "Gesneriad and African Violet Roundup," Sacramento Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento. Oct. 20, 2 - 6 p.m.; Oct. 21, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission, public invited. For information: Ruth Jo McCoy, show chairman, 209-745-9602.

OCTOBER 26 MISSOURI — Missouri Valley AV Council Judging School, Ramada Inn South, 5701 Longview Rd., Kansas City. Teacher, Mrs. Maurice (Jackie) Jones. Fee, \$10.00. For more information or to register please write: Mrs. Royce N. Schafer, 3830 Woodland Court, Davenport, IA 52807.

OCTOBER 26 & 27 NORTH CAROLINA — Green Thumb AVS show/sale, Tarrytown Mall, Rt. 301 & Business 64, Rocky Mount. Both days, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

OCTOBER 27 & 28 MISSOURI — Missouri Valley AV Council's show, "A Grand View of Violets," Ramada Inn South, 5701 Longview Road, Kansas City, MO, near Grandview. Oct. 27, noon - 5 p.m.; Oct. 28, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Show hosted by the Sho-Me AVC. Kitty Julian, show chairman, 816-987-2382.

OCTOBER 27 & 28 FLORIDA — African Violet Council of Florida show/sale, "A Space Odyssey," Colonial Plaza Mall, East Colonial Drive and Bumby Avenue, Orlando. Oct. 27, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Oct. 28, 12:30 - 5 p.m. Free admission. For information: Alyce Droege, show chairman, 1318 Kewanee Trail, Maitland, FL 32751, phone, 407-767-0899.

NOVEMBER 2 - 4 SOUTH AFRICA — Southern AVS' show/sale, "Violets the World Over," Krugersdorp Library, South Africa. Free admission. Mrs. Petro van Logerenberg, show chairman.

NOVEMBER 3 & 4 CALIFORNIA — Thousand Oaks AVS 10th anniversary show/sale, "Our Ten-Year Violet-A-Faire," Thousand Oaks Public Library, 1401 E. Janss Rd., Thousand Oaks. Nov. 3, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Nov. 4, 1 - 4 p.m. Free admission, public welcome. Marcia Shaver, show chairman. For information: 805-495-0218.

NOVEMBER 3 & 4 NEW JERSEY — Tri-State AVC show/sale, "Gay '90s," Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown. Nov. 3, 1 - 6 p.m.; Nov. 4, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Frank Senna, chairman.

NOVEMBER 9 - 11 MINNESOTA — AVS of Minnesota show/sale, "Family Holidays," Har MAR Mall, North Snelling Ave. at County Road B, Roseville. Regular mall hours. Russ Christensen, show chairman; Donna Tobin, cochairman. Public invited.

NOVEMBER 10 & 11 MISSOURI — Mid-America AVS' 11th annual show/sale, "Conserving the Heritage of the Violet Family," Loose Park Garden Center, 5200 Pennsylvania, Kansas City. Both days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Grace McCurnin, president; Mary Gall, show chairman and Laurie Nelson, show vice chairman.

NOVEMBER 10 & 11 GEORGIA — African Violet Club of Greater Atlanta's 14th annual show/sale, "Violets In The Gay '90s," Atlanta Botanical Gardens Day Room, noon - 5 p.m., both days. Kathy Spissman, show chairman.

NOVEMBER 10 & 11 CALIFORNIA — AV Councils of Northern and Southern California's convention/show/sale, "A Tournament of Violets," Pasadena Hilton Hotel, 15 South Las Robles, Pasadena. Nov. 10, noon - 5 p.m.; Nov. 11, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Admission is free to the public. For more information: 818-363-6222.

NOVEMBER 17 & 18 TEXAS — Pasadena AVS show/sale, "Violets, Treasures of the Sea," Golden Acres Multi-purpose Center, 5001 Oak, Pasadena. Nov. 17, 1:30 - 6 p.m.; Nov. 18, noon - 5 p.m. John Gonzales, show chairman.

AVSA Booster Fund

Ruth Warren
P. O. Box 3664
Fall River, MA 02722

My letter of May 15, 1990, to all Affiliated clubs has motivated clubs and individuals to contribute to the AVSA Booster Fund. The response has been very good and much appreciated by AVSA. Your enthusiasm is necessary for your local societies, as well as AVSA, to prosper. AVSA is YOUR society. The Booster Fund is a means for us to support and provide for our progress and prosperity. Thanks to all contributors.

Frank Senna	\$15.00
Deborah Griffith	
in memory of Maurice Gilpin	10.00
Beaumont AVS, TX	
in memory of Bertha Yates and Bea May	20.00
Atchafalaya AVSA, LA	25.00
AVS of Minnesota	
in memory of Irene Jensen	25.00
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Nutmeg AVS, CT	25.00
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Don Thornburg, CA	10.00
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Twin State AVS	100.00
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Boyce Edens Research Fund

Marlene Buck
P. O. Box 38, Oreland, PA 19075

*Now's the time
to fall into line
Give BERF contributions ...
anytime
To greatly expand our minds
with new violet knowledge
and new finds!*

Donations received from March 28, 1990 through May 20, 1990.

Portland AVS, OR	
in memory of Emily Condray	10.00
Albuquerque AVC, NM	25.00
First Lakeland AVS, FL	
in memory of Pearl Wachter, mother of Barbara Robinson	15.00
Green Bay Area AVS, WI	
in memory of Albert Harrill, husband of Margaret Harrill	25.00
First Nighter AVS, Dallas, TX	
in lieu of judges expenses to Mrs. Anna Padgett ..	20.00
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The Violet Study Club of Houston, TX	10.00
Dixie AVS, Franklin, TN	100.00
Diablo Valley AV Growers, Walnut Creek, CA	25.00
Leonard & Elaine Re, Fountain Valley, CA	
in memory of Emma Ehler	10.00
Capital City AVS, Sacramento, CA	25.00



mini - tidbits



Florence Naylor

2647 Harbor Boulevard, Ventura, CA 93001

Congratulations to all winners for growing the "best" around the country in our spring African violet shows. There have been many beautiful shows this year. I can't think of a better way to generate interest in our hobby than via a breathtaking display of beautifully grown plants. Time and again I've seen people go up to a plant to feel if they are real. Although this practice should be discouraged, many times it so amazes them that we end up with another violeteer endeavoring to achieve the same results.

JoAnne Behl was "In Tune With Music" at the San Mateo AVS show. She ran away with all the major awards: Best in Show - *Magic Blue*; Best AVSA Collection - *Magic Blue, Snuggles, Rob's Quixotic Lad*, and Best Miniature - *Everdina*. Show chairman, Thelma Walther, reporting.

Copper City AVS of Rome, NY reports the following winners: Mr. & Mrs. W. Hart had Best Miniature - *Wunnerful*; Best Semiminiature - *Rob's Megan Lynn*; 2nd Best Semiminiature - *Rob's Megan Lynn*; and Best Trailer - *Bellwood Trail*. Geraldine Knoblock grew the 2nd Best Miniature - *Blueberry Swirl*. Joyce Lyman had the 2nd Best Trailer - *Nancy Hayes*. Thanks Annabelle Hart for sharing the news.

Awards Chairman, Mark Grigalunas, announced the following winners at the 24th New York City AVS show, "Violets in the Market Place." Best Collection of Semiminiatures - *Magic Blue, Rob's Pink Satin, Surprise Party*; Best Collection of Miniatures - *Blue Ice, Optimara Little Sapphire, Optimara Little Diamond*; Miniature - *Mickey Mouse*; Best Semiminiature - *Surprise Party*, were won by Joseph Palagonia. Nancy Hough had the 2nd Best Collection of Miniatures - *Tiny Moon Goddess, Corkie, Little*

Harp; 2nd Best Miniature - *Little Harp*; 2nd Best Semiminiature - *Precious Pink*.

If you want a perfect show plant, try *Shutterbug*, hybridized by Pittman. It grows with beautiful crown variegation topped by a symmetrical rosette of tiny blue rose-like double blossoms. The blooms are sized nicely proportional to the foliage. The foliage grows symmetrically with nice overlapping growth pattern. I won Best Semiminiature with this plant at the Ventura County AVS show.

Another wonderful plant I saw at the Tucson AVS show was Semiminiature, *Angel Lace*. It had beautiful symmetrical overlapping variegated foliage with a nice rosette of bloom. Normally it is desirable to have three rows of overlapping leaves. Sometimes this is difficult to achieve and still remain within the size limitation of the miniature or semiminiature class of six inches and eight inches respectively. *Angel Lace* has this quality.

I can get *Ruffled Joy* to have three very symmetrical overlapping foliage growing in a thumb pot. In a 2-inch pot, I can only get two rows of leaves before I exceed the size of eight inches. My leaves grow too large in a larger pot under my growing conditions.

If you are looking for a nice white blooming plant, give *Fritzy*, hybridized by Steinman, a try. It has nice symmetrical green foliage topped by a wonderful head of bloom. It tends to bloom a lot for long periods of time if you let it. (After a show I disbud all the blossoms from a plant to prevent carrying pests home.)

For you designers out there, the blossoms from *Icicle Trinket* hold up well in any design. They are a full double white semiminiature blossom with a sturdy stem. It is one of the older

cultivars that also can be a very symmetrical growing variegated plant, if grown close to the lights. If grown farther from the lights, it tends to get rangy with long peduncles. These blos-

soms are a clear white with no tinges of any other hues, in spite of growing under lights for the last 10 years.

IN MEMORY

MARY JOYCE ADAMS

1904 - 1990

We were deeply saddened by the death of Mary Joyce Adams of Denver, CO, good friend and benefactor of AVSA.

Mary Adams, whose friendly smile and genuine interest in all our members was paramount. She attended and participated in 13 of our annual conventions and was a loyal member for many years.

She devoted a lifetime of teaching and distinguished service to child education, for which she received great recognition and many accolades.

Mary was known best to many of our members as participating in our annual convention tours. She so enjoyed meeting members from many areas that attended. Her sincere concern and devotion to our society was admirable.

We remember, too, her friendly face and service rendered at the Building Fund Table, as she helped to promote AVSA in her own special way. She shall be greatly missed by us all.

Anne Tinari

MARGUY J. MCVEY

Marguy McVey, a member of the Amethyst African Violet Club of St. Louis, MO, for 25 years, died April 5, 1990, just five days before her 89th birthday.

A dedicated grower, Marguy exhibited her violets in the St. Louis shows in the horticulture and design divisions; in the latter, terrariums and underwater arrangements were her favorites. In 1988, she exhibited in her last show. As she checked her entries to be sure all finishing touches had been made, a very soft whistle could be heard. Marguy was not aware of this trait; she was too deeply engrossed in concen-

tration and attention to detail.

In addition to participating in all club activities, outdoor gardening and creating ceramic pieces occupied her time.

A very busy and talented woman, Marguy, and her whistle, are missed.

*Marion Hamtil
Amethyst AVC
St. Louis, MO*

CHRIS KUNHARDT

The gesneriad world will be saddened to learn of the death of Chris Kunhardt, who died suddenly of a heart attack on May 26, 1990. He was 61 years old.

If anyone had done anything to further the knowledge of gesneriads in South Africa, it was Chris. He was always ready and willing to impart whatever knowledge he had about the African violet's beautiful cousins. Chris had a special love for the Streptocarpus and his collection of these plants must have been one of the most extensive in the world. On many occasions he would travel vast distances to collect a new specimen he had heard of.

One of my last memories of Chris is seeing him in his study which was filled with numerous packets of seeds he planned to sow in the days ahead. He had many friends here and abroad, and it never ceased to amaze me how avid a letter writer he was.

Chris is survived by his wife, Hilaria, his sons, David and Martin and his daughter, Rosemary. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Rest in peace, Chris.

*Fil Green
Transvaal African Violet Society*

IRENE JENSEN

The African Violet Society of Minnesota was saddened by the death of Mrs. Roy (Irene) Jensen of Alexandria, Minnesota on March 8, 1990.

Also known as "Irene's Violet Windows," Irene was a devoted, loyal and generous member of AVSM and AVSA, always donating "boxes" of new varieties for our affiliate shows, and presenting many awards for specimen plants in horticulture.

Nellie Hosek and I would often visit Irene and Roy and spend a pleasant day with them. What a joy it was to see such a mass of color in her home, as Irene specialized in new varieties and also enjoyed hybridizing. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

*Palma Trapp
AVS of Minnesota*

MARALYN WHITMORE

Maralyn Whitmore, an active member of the Rockford African Violet Fanciers and Monroe Late Bloomers of Illinois, died June 10, 1990.

She served on various committees and was active on the state level. She was an AVSA Judge.

She will be sadly missed by all.

*Delores Olsen
Orangeville, IL*

WHIT WHITTEN

The African Violet Society of Birmingham is saddened by the sudden death of Whit Whitten, on May 26, 1990. Whit had been elected vice president of our club.

He was a former member of The Earlybird Club, secretary of The African Violet Society of Birmingham, and a member of AVSA.

Whit is survived by his wife of many years, Mildred, and their son, Irl.

Whit was a friend and loyal club member. We will miss him.

*Ramona W. Hodges
Secretary
The AVS of Birmingham*

POET'S CORNER

I am an African violet
And I come to live with you.
So mind me well and I
Will show you what I'll do.

I'll grow up green and pretty
Until one day there'll be
Among my leaves a blossom
Maybe two or three.

They may be pink or striped
Or white or even blue.
There are as many colors
As a rainbow's varied hues.

So put me by a window
I need good light you see.
So I can grow and be
The best that I can be.

I'll need a drink of water
Maybe every other day.
And violet food to help me
Grow in every way.

If you do this I'm sure
I'll grow so round and fair
With the loveliest head of flowers
That you'll see anywhere.

So take me to the flower show
And I'll do my best for you.
See there, a big blue ribbon.
But it took both me and you.

*Mary M. Wilson
Alpha Violet Society
Garland, Texas*

It's Time for a Dust Buster Session

Lynda C. Welchel
San Antonio, TX

The next time you go into your living areas at home, stop and take a few moments to observe the dust that collects on your table tops, television screen, mirrors, plant lights, etc. That same amount of dust, and perhaps more things may be clogging the pores of your plants. Take a blanket from a bed and try shaking it. Notice the amount of dust that flies through the air. If our African violets are to be grown to their best potential, they must be kept free of excessive dust and debris.

Taking care of the debris portion is easy. This facet of care should be a matter of routine. Remove dead blossoms, damaged leaves, etc., as they occur. If dead leaves or blossoms are left on plants, fungal infections may develop and spread to the rest of a plant and possibly spread to the rest of your collection.

That constant pest, dust, will clog up the pores (the working surface of leaves) and hinder photosynthesis, thereby slowing down the growth of your plant. Whether we like it or not, dust is everywhere and unfortunately, here to stay. Sweeping your floor, dusting in your plant room, or running the vacuum cleaner, will not prevent dust from settling on your plants. In fact, the simple act of cleaning stirs up more dust, that will happily take up residence on your plants.

Look at an African violet leaf; you will see that it is hairy and therefore a master at trapping dust and anything else that is floating around in the environment. This may include residual from anti-fungus sprays, insecticide sprays, furniture polish (spray), air freshener, etc. If you keep plants in your bathroom or dressing area, your plants may even be sporting a coat of hair spray or after-bath powder! Put your ear very close to your plant; you may even hear it gasping for breath. Try putting a little hair spray on your arm. Let it dry; now you know what it feels like. Your plant is helpless to

cleanse itself. Just imagine hair spray combined with dust, accumulating over a few months. It's time for a "Dust Buster Session."

There are two ways of removing dust and dirt from your plants; either by brushing or washing. Take a moment to look at a leaf of your African violet plant again. Notice the hairs on the leaf generally grow away from the center or crown of the plant. Brush the leaf with gentle strokes (a make-up brush is great). Do not use hard-bristle brushes, as they will bruise the leaves. When attempting to rid your plants of dust, use a soft brush, but not too soft, because it will not adequately remove the dust. Be sure and support each leaf in turn, by placing your fingers underneath the leaf, to support it, then brush away from the center of the plant. It is especially important to support the leaves of large standard plants. They often times can be very brittle and I'm sure most of us have heard that dreaded crackling sound of a leaf breaking off of a plant and thereby ruining the symmetry. A petiole can be very easily broken if you are not careful. You might try leaving on a leaf support while dusting off your leaves, for added safety.

If you brush your plants every 1 - 2 months, you will prevent any major buildup of dust and debris. One word of caution: if you think you have any pests or diseases on a plant, remember you could spread this problem via the brush, as you go from plant to plant.

What about the case of neglected plants, or you have too many to brush each leaf on every plant individually? You may want to try your hand at washing your plants. Depending on the type of water you have, you may not want to use tap water to bathe your plants. Water that contains lime, salt, or other additives, may leave a residue on plants, after they are washed. If this is the case, try using distilled water in a mister, instead of bathing your plants at the sink.

The most important thing to remember when bathing plants is to use warm water. If you decide to use a sprayer/mister, the water should be hot. By the time the water is sprayed out of the bottle, into the air, and on to the plant, it will have cooled considerably. If your water is suitable right out of your sink, using warm water, hold the plant on its side and let a small stream of warm water run over the leaves, being careful not to wet the crown (center of the plant.) The warm water, as it flows over the leaves, will carry away with it, the accumulated dust, spray residual, and those particles of perlite, etc. This procedure should be carried out under warm conditions in your home. Do not allow the plants to be exposed to drafts. If you are comfortable in a room, your plants will be comfortable also.

The plants should be allowed to dry before returning them to an area where they get direct sun light and **under no circumstances should they be exposed to sun light when wet!** If you happen to get any water on the crown of the plant, blot it up with a tissue, possibly leaving the tissue there for a few moments to absorb any small droplets of water that might have been left behind. When I have finished bathing my plants, I usually place a paper towel over each one and a tissue on the crown, for a half hour or so, before I return them to my plant room and back under the lights.

Giving your plants a bath is best done in the morning hours, so the plant will have adequate time to dry before the cooler hours of the evening. Leaving your plants wet could cause mildew and other diseases. If you are growing under lights, you can return your plants to the light when there are no droplets of water visible.

Let the appearance of your plants guide you as to when they need to be brushed or bathed. Conditions vary from grower to grower. Some homes have more dust than others. During the hot months, air conditioning certainly helps to remove dust from the air. The amount of traffic you have near your plants can make a difference too. Dust is stirred up by just walking past your plant stands. One area of the country may be drier than another and thus have more dust. If you have a dog or cat, you may have the added

problem of animal hair, especially during the warm months when our domestic pets tend to shed. There are many variables.

Keep your plants free of debris, and dusted. They will breath better and you will breath a sigh of relief before show time knowing you don't have to risk washing your plant with a full head of blossoms and possibly cause injury to the plant. Spray residual and dust detract from African violets. Speaking of dust, remember to periodically dust your light tubes on your plant stand. Dust cuts down on the intensity of available light coming from your tubes.

Whether you are a casual admirer of African violets or an avid grower, this added "TLC" will pay great dividends for the small amount of time invested.

Listen carefully, your violets may be choking and whispering in desperation, "It's time for a Dust Buster Session."



Third Best In Design at a Tampa (FL) AVS show was "A Secluded Garden" by Lucille Chester.



STREPTOCARPUS HOLIDAY HYBRID
Lakeshore (IL) AVS

Carla Weaver Hudson
(photo by Bob Hassenauer, Glenview, IL)

AVSA Building Fund

Nell-Sue Tyson
2030 E. Amherst Avenue
Denver, CO 80210



Our Building Fund has a problem and we need your help in solving it!

As you may know, Beaumont, Texas had a

severe winter, resulting in many frozen and ruptured water pipes. AVSA had to stand the expense of repair and replacement. This has set us back a bit; the Building Site Committee has been delayed in making a selection for approval for our future home.

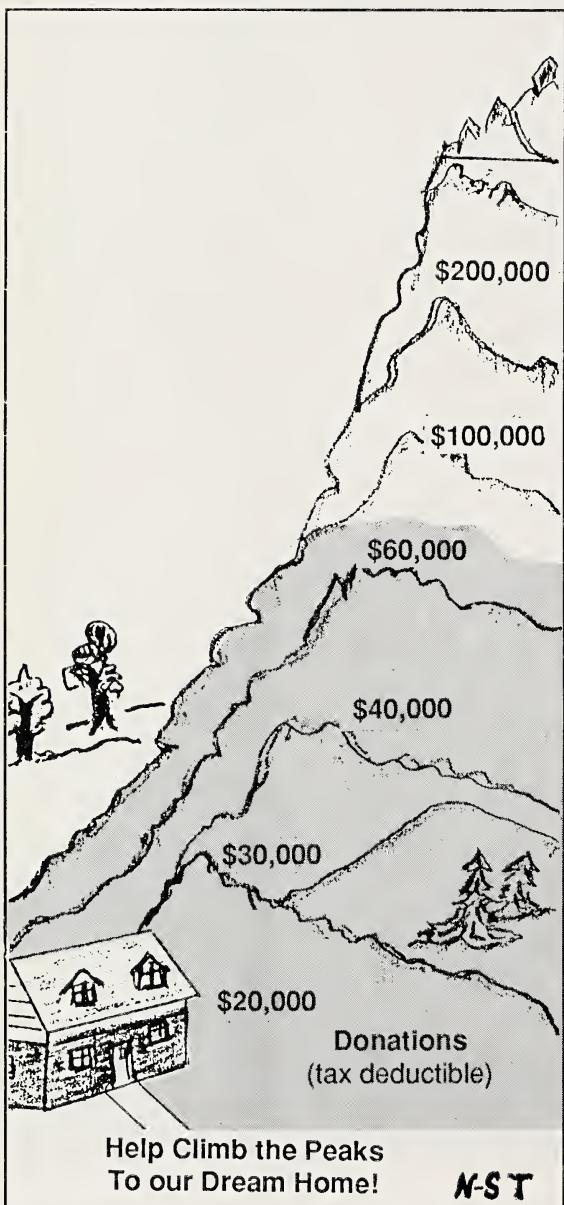
The lease on our current office expires in two years, so we certainly want to find a new place by that date.

We appeal to each of you individually and to your Affiliate to attempt to come up with ideas by which we can raise more money to speed up the date of our selection so we can make a move before the current lease expires.

Will you share your ideas and suggestions — for this concern all of us.

Contributions received from March 26 through April 25, 1990.

North Texas AV Judges Council in memory of Walter Stallings, husband of Mary Stallings	\$15.00
Helen Kongsted, CT	50.00
The First AVS of Las Vegas, NV	25.00
Don Thornburg, CA	15.00
AVS of Northern Illinois in lieu of judging fees to Mr. & Mrs. J. Corbett of Evanston	10.00
AVS of Northern Illinois in lieu of judging fees to Susan Dublinski of Lake Zurich	10.00
Mrs. George (Anna Jean) Landgren judging expense from AVS of Greater Peoria, IL ..	30.00
San Mateo County AVS, CA judging expense to Gregory B. Sedgwick of San Francisco	15.00
Capital City AVS, CA in lieu of judging fee to Gregory B. Sedgwick	15.00
Mid-Polk AVS, FL	100.00
Los Angeles AVS, CA	50.00
Albuquerque AVC, NM	50.00
Mrs. William (Kazuko) Lyons, PA beautiful afghan and other handcrafted items sold and/or raffled off at convention sales table	588.50
Mrs. H. N. "E" Hansen lovely needlepoint articles sold at Convention sales table. Check from "E" Hansen for \$301 which	



includes \$105 from sale of Big Books and supplements donated by Marilyn Goldstein; Julia Adams, \$25.00; Vivian C. Hiltz, \$37.00; Frances Young, \$12.00 375.00
 Sunset AVS of Phoenix, AZ 25.00
 Union County Chapter AVSA, NJ
 in lieu of judging expenses 20.00
 Mary E. Gall, KS 10.00
 Japan International Saintpaulia Society 100.00
 Cash from AVSA general sales table - Boston Convention (consists of \$505 in cash, travel check - \$25.00; checks: \$4, \$5, \$19, \$10. Also includes \$58 from 50/50 contest; raffling of lovely afghan made by Flora Semen; AVSA watch donated by Charlie Bollar; Apache series of leaves and shawl donated by Meredith Hall; shawl and 15 ceramic pots donated by Jane Rexilius; Max Maas leaves donated by Union County Chapter plus 25 plants donated by commercial members - Ralph Robinson, Paul and Sidney Sorano, Hortense Pittman, Kent Stork and Nolan Blansit. Helping Flora Semen and Janet Riemer at the general sales table were: Marlene Buck, Meredith Hall, Jane Rexilius, Anna Jean Landgren and five members of Tristate - Antoinette Rogan, Hilda VandeMeer, Cecelia Winfield, Charlotte Lynn and Bob Kurzinski. 568.00
 Loose change donated at sales table
 - Boston Convention 128.85
 Julia Adams, CT
 in lieu of speaker's fee from Windsor AVS 40.00
 First Saintpaulia Society of Atlanta, GA
 in memory of Ellen Boartfield 15.00

Total for the month - \$2,255.35

TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS - \$63,309.07

Contributions received from April 26 through May 25, 1990.

Erica E. Gordon, NY	\$10.00
Jeanne Maier, NY	
in lieu of program to Merrick Garden Club	10.00
Diablo Valley AV Growers, CA	100.00
First Goldsboro AVS, NC	
in memory of Kermit Bunn, father	
of Kermit M. Bunn	20.00
Don L. Thornburg, CA	15.00
Capital City AVS, CA	
in memory of Gene Heer, from Lodi	25.00
Capital City AVS, CA	
in memory of Bertie Jackson of Sacramento	25.00
Copper City AVS, NJ	
in memory of Etta Wittmann	10.00
Copper City AVS, NJ	
in memory of Ray Dooley	10.00
New York City AVS, Inc.	
in lieu of judging reimbursement	
to Janet McAfoos	5.00
New York City AVS, Inc.	
in lieu of judging reimbursement	
to Gloria Rutmeyer	5.00
AV Council of Florida	200.00
Don L. Thornburg, CA	
in lieu of speaker's fee to San Leandro	
Garden Club	25.00
AVS of North Jersey, NY	

in lieu of speaker's fee to Janet Riemer	35.00
First Saintpaulia Society of Atlanta, GA	
in memory of Mrs. T. H. (Lilly) Trimble	15.00
Marilyn Goldstein, FL	460.00
Helen M. Christensen, MI	
donation given at Boston Convention	40.00
Mrs. Frances S. Brown, NY	
in loving memory of my teacher and friend,	
Ray Dooley	10.00
Kent's Flowers - Kent and Joyce Stork, NE	
in memory of Bill Johnson who will be	
missed so much	25.00

Total for the month - \$1,045.00

In the April report, money from the "loose change container" on the Building Fund sales table in Boston had \$36.00 in bills which were counted in as sales and then again as "loose change." A correction is made reducing our grand total by \$36.00. \$36.00 Credit

TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS - \$64,318.07



Second Best in Design at a recent Tampa (FL) AVS show was "Back to Nature," a natural garden design by Mary Lou Harden.



QUIET REFLECTIONS
SARA

BARBARA ELKIN



QUESTION BOX



James Smith
1126 Ferry Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14301



Question: I am a new African violet enthusiast and I am trying to learn all that I can about these beautiful plants. I have bought most of the books I can find. Could you suggest other publications that would benefit me?

Answer: Besides the AVM, I would recommend a book by Pauline Bartholomew titled, *Growing To Show*. It is a condensed book on how to grow and show African violets. If you are unable to locate it, write to: AV Enterprises Press, P. O. Box 6778, Oxnard, CA 93030. This book has been a great help to me. There are so many good books to obtain, but unfortunately I don't have a directory. I am not sure one exists. Perhaps one could be created? If anyone has an idea, write to me.

Question: My problem is that I am not sure how far my plants should be from the lights without them reaching or getting burned. I am a new grower and I want to be sure that I am doing everything correctly.

Answer: After 20 years of growing African violets, even I am learning new methods of growing them. We can learn new ways of good growing culture all the time. What works best for me is about 8-10 inches from the top of the plant to the light bulb. I very rarely adjust this distance. I have found that blossoms do open quickly if the distance is shorter. Move plants closer to the bulbs. This adjustment is made only if I am getting ready for show and I have some blossoms that require a little 'help.'

There are two articles in the AVM (November/December 1989 and January/February 1990), 'Not For Beginners Only' column, written by Edward Bradford, that will give you much information concerning light and lighting fixtures.

Question: I presently wick water and prefer it to community watering. I would like your opinion on using a variety of different fertilizers. My young plants are started on Allegro — 1-1/2 teaspoons per gallon water. Previously, I have used B-1 or UF-11 (15-85-55), the latter was highly recommended to me by a friend who used the 'Texas Style' method of growing. Some of my plants are starting to show signs of fertilizer burn. I plan to put my plants on Optimara 12-14-12 and add some fish stick fertilizer to some and alternate with UF-11, and whatever else; I haven't decided. Help would be appreciated.

Answer: Variety is the spice of life. When it comes to African violets, the old saying isn't quite so true and it's best not to stray too far! I can remember collecting good old cow manure for my grandmother, and she grew beautiful plants. Welcome to the world of manufactured fertilizers. There are so many to choose from. At an AVSA convention workshop on fertilizers, the speaker mentioned that there was little difference between the formulas 15-30-15 and 15-36-12 and that either could be used with negligible differences. Having tried both, I have found this to be a fact. During the growing season, when I am not preparing for a show, I have been using Peter's 20-20-20 with good results. I want good even growth, and that is what I get! I keep my plants disbudded during this period. At about 10 weeks prior to show, when blossom buds should begin to grow, I switch to 15-30-15. By adding one drop of B-1 vitamin, a nice shine will appear on the foliage. The B-1 vitamin source I use is a product called Superthrive.

I would be very cautious using a formula

with a high phosphorus level. Under your friend's conditions, this formula might work for her. As a new grower, try using a good balanced formula and avoid radical changes from one to another. Establish what works best for your violets and stick with it.

Question: I have one violet that I obtained out of four that has not bloomed in a year since their purchase. It looks rather healthy and robust. I fertilize it less frequently than my flowering violets. It is under fluorescent lights for 16 - 24 hours a day. The air feels to be drier than African violets would like, but the plant has never shown any signs of any environmental distress. The difference between this plant and my others is that this one has leaves that appear to be reaching upwards. There are four rows of leaves off the central crown. The plant is bushy. It seems that little change has occurred over the last year with the plant. No leaves have dried, fallen down, or otherwise grown. Is there anything I should do to change the plant's environment?

Answer: Three things that I noticed in your letter that could cause you some problems:

1. You mentioned that you fertilize the 'problem' plant less frequently. Why? All plants require a consistent feeding program. Use 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon of a balanced fertilizer per gallon each time you water. Start feeding as you do the other plants. When was the last time this plant was repotted? Standards should be repotted a minimum of twice a year to maintain good growth. Miniatures require repotting at least three times during the year.

2. Unless you are growing to show, fluorescent lights should burn a *minimum* of 12 to a *maximum* of 16 hours a day. Too much light may cause foliage to bunch up and/or become distorted, turn light green as if bleaching out.

3. Try to increase your humidity. Since I don't have a description of your light setup, a suggestion for correction would be difficult. My plant stands have large trays into which I pour water. This helps to maintain good humidity. The plants each have their own saucer so the extra water is not a problem.

The only problem that I have to watch out for is mildew. Mildew is kept in check by using Funginex or Physan 20 according to label direc-

tions.

From my experience, it doesn't matter what the variety is as they all, for the most part, require the same growing conditions and care.

As I mentioned in my last column, I would give you the scoop concerning diatomaceous earth. All letters received praised the use of the 'wonder product' of nature. However, one person wrote that the label contains a warning that the earth must not be inhaled as it could cause lung cancer. If dust gets into the eyes, it will irritate. Thus, although diatomaceous earth is not a chemical and is not as dangerous as most chemicals used in African violet culture, caution must be exercised when using this product. Thanks for the warning!

A reader sent me a wonderful pamphlet on this subject; if you would like a copy, send a SASE. Most people wrote that they have used diatomaceous earth on soil mealy bugs and mites with the results being successful.

For foliage application, brush the powder, as one reader put it, 'into every nook and cranny' for about two to three days. For your soil mixture, use one pint mixed thoroughly into each 3/4 bushel.

As a precaution, **wear a mask!** Good luck!



Recent winners for the Evening AVC of Des Moines were: best collection, Marie Iistrup, *Little Pro, Top Most, Pay Dirt*; best trailer and 2nd best of show, Kathy Mathews, *Foxwood Trail*; best of show, Deb Oelmann, *Devil May Care*; best club project plant, Ray Blanchard, *Cinnamon Girl*; best semi, *Pay Dirt*, best mini, *Rose Quartz*, best unusual container, best artistic plant, best arrangement, design sweepstakes and sweepstakes, Jan Tyler.

New Dimensions in Pest Control

Don Thornburg
266 Lenox Avenue
Oakland, CA 94610

Soil mealy bugs! Dirty words! Of all the pests encountered by African violet growers, and many other plants, soil mealy bugs are one of the most dreaded and troublesome.

About a year ago I discovered that the small and baby plantlets growing on my four-tier plant stand, on capillary matting, were heavily infested with soil mealy bugs. What to do? I dislike tremendously, using any sort of toxic materials and refuse to do so unless absolutely forced to. But, what to do? At about this same time, I was given a couple of articles from horticultural and botanical publications touting the use of a product called diatomaceous earth. Naturally, I read these articles with great interest and what I read sounded too good to be true; but it is true, as I have since learned. Diatomaceous earth is a 100% environmentally-safe miracle solution for mealy bugs and most likely, for other soilborne pests in gardens, greenhouses, windowsills, basements and plant stands.

Diatomaceous earth is a naturally occurring material found in abundance in many parts of the world. It is the skeletal remains of a one-cell diatom from eons past. North of Santa Barbara, CA, near Lompoc, the beaches are covered with it. It is a fine, white-grey powder feeling similar to corn starch. It can be obtained in large hardware stores and home building centers that handle swimming pool filtering and cleaning equipment and supplies. The trade name of the product I obtained, is Celatom. It is also available from tropical fish stores, as it is used extensively in aquarium filters. However, it would no doubt be more expensive in smaller, consumer packages sold in these stores. I bought a 10-pound bag at a home building center for \$10.00, and when using only a couple of tablespoons per quart of soil mix, you quickly see that it is a very inexpensive item.

Eagle-Picher Minerals, Inc., of Reno, NV is the producer of the material I obtained. I have contacted them and they confirm that diatomaceous earth is a 100% non-toxic material to humans, dogs, cats, birds, etc. In fact, it is widely used to eradicate worms from pet and domestic farm animals. It can even be used by humans for eradication of intestinal worms. It is also widely used in grain elevators and ocean-going ships carrying grain, where it is mixed into the grain to eliminate bugs and pests.

Some people have voiced concern that it could be hazardous if the dust was breathed. No doubt, it would be, but my experience has been that it is almost impossible to create any dust. One would have to be extremely careless in their handling of the material to create a dust problem.

It seems that to the mealy bug, diatomaceous earth is a very irritating and abrasive material. The naturally occurring sharp edges cut and pierce their skin, causing loss of body fluids and they die.

Also, once you have added DE to your soil, it is there permanently — forever. It is an inert material; it does not break down; it causes no change in the characteristics of the soil, (Eagle-Picher says the pH is 6.5 to 7.0); it does not add any nutrients to the soil, nor does it wash out. Because of these extraordinarily desirable characteristics, it seems certain to me that overdosing would be almost impossible. Another bonus effect that I have observed is that I no longer have a single white fly or gnat flying around my plants. I understand that these little pests, as well as thrips, have one cycle in the soil, and with DE in the soil, these pests are doomed before they get started.

Eagle-Picher advises that they have been hearing more and more about the use of this product as an effective insecticide and are cur-

rently involved in obtaining an EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) permit so they can distribute the material to retail outlets as an insect control. Eagle-Picher also advises that the crude material might be more suitable for our use, as an insecticide, and they are sending me a one pound sample package. Any EPA permit obtained by Eagle-Picher would be transferable to any retail outlet who may wish to market the product as an insecticide.

In the year or so that I have been using DE, I find it has completely eradicated the mealy bug problem. In fact, I am so confident with it that I would not hesitate to bring a badly infested plant into my plant room and place it directly alongside one of my plants which has DE in the soil. All my plants are now in soil containing DE. The pests could not be transferred. Some people tell me that they brush the center of their violets with a small artist brush to which is applied DE and that this controls mites. Of course, the dust is visible for a time, but who

wouldn't prefer to have a slightly dusty plant over a plant infested with mites? I have not used it in this way, however. I also have learned that pet stores use DE in their pet cages to prevent and eradicate insects inherent in that environment.

I hope you will soon conduct your own experiment with DE, because I'm confident your results will prove miraculous and make you a much happier and confident African violet grower.

As a lover and grower of African violets for more than 25 years, I take great pleasure in sharing with others whatever information comes to my attention.

Happy growing.

(Note: The above article was submitted to the AVM upon the request of the editor. AVSA does not condemn nor condone the use of this product. The opinions expressed in this article are those solely of the author.)

Readers Write ...

about Diatomaceous Earth

Following, are several replies from our readership, in regard to the use of diatomaceous earth:

Dear Jane,

Just read Rose Akins letter and your 'note' asking to hear from anyone using diatomaceous earth. I've been using it for several months: in my soil mix to fight soil mealies and in crowns and upper leaf axils to control mites. I wouldn't be without it!! It is VERY effective against soil mealies. I'm a frequent 'trader' so soil mealies have appeared several times and spread to every plant in the tray (12-1/2" x 22-1/2") each 'infected' plant was in. The only way I could eradicate them was to discard all but the crown of infested plants. Then I read about diatomaceous earth; called our Park & Forest preserve 'experts' and inquired about it. I found it had many "pro's" and not one "con," (absolutely harmless to humans and pets) if you avoid

breathing any of its dust. I moisten my mix before adding it into a scooped-out area and get virtually no dust. It wasn't easy, but finally located a 20# bag at a pool supply store (used in filters), but am now told most aquarium supply stores should stock it in smaller amounts. It does kill every soil mealy in every re-potted plant.

It also kills mites—using it as a sole cure. But when mite damage becomes visible, they have a big "head start" and diatomaceous earth works slow — they have to crawl through it enough to mutilate themselves. So I'd suggest one thorough, initial spraying and the next day apply diatomaceous earth. This will prevent so much damage to our precious plants.

It is said to be as effective on foliar mealies as

on soil ones, but I've had none to use it on.

I read of someone using it effectively against thrips, too. But again, I've had none to use it on.

It will be several months and another repotting before I'll feel I can safely go back to using capillary matting. I'll report again, after I do.

Sincerely,
Racine Hopper
Berwyn, IL

Dear Jane,

I noticed your request for comments on diatomaceous earth. I am new at raising violets so am most anxious to try different methods. Even though I was warned against it, I had to try it.

Out of 10 plants that I tried it on, I lost four. It was as if their roots were cut off and they just suddenly went limp. The other six have been repotted and at this point are struggling along.

I gave the stuff to my husband and put it out to see what it will do to ants.

I most certainly will never use it again.

Sincerely,
Judy Beery
Monrovia, CA

Dear Jane,

I've received a lot of correspondence about diatomaceous earth asking about sources. Here are a few:

Nitron, Inc., Box 1447, Fayetteville, AR 72702

Mellingers, 2310 W. South Range, North Lima, OH 44452

Ringer Products, 9959 Valley View Rd., Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Sincerely,
Rose Akins,
Farmington, NM

(Editor's Note: A few AVSA Commercial members are now selling diatomaceous earth. Please check the ads in this magazine for other sources.)

Pasadena Tournament of Violets

*Mary A. Blancher, Publicity
Northridge, CA*

Everyone with a television set has seen the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade on January 1st. This November 8, 9, 10 and 11, the second annual State of California African Violet Convention and Show, "A Tournament of Violets" will be presented by the combined Northern and Southern California African Violet Councils, hosted by the Southern California Council.

The Pasadena Hilton Hotel, 15 South Los Robles, Pasadena 91101 is the site for the "tournament." Pasadena is a cultural and residential center with many stately old homes, the Rose Bowl, and California Institute of Technology. It is only a few miles from Los Angeles and the attractions for which southern California is world-known are nearby. They include Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, Universal Studios, the Queen Mary and Spruce Goose Tours.

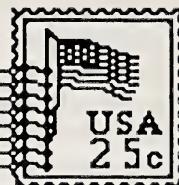
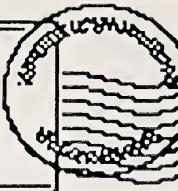
Show Chairman Florence Naylor (Mini-tidbits columnist for *AVM*) promises a truly outstanding judged "tournament," with plant sales, exhibits, tours, educational presentations, fine dining and fellowship.

November is a great month to visit southern California because the winter and holiday tourists have not yet arrived, and the long lines at tourist attractions are much shorter. Convention room rates of \$75 (double) will be in effect. For further information call or write: Charles Alvarez, 740 E. Virginia Terrace, Santa Paula, CA 93060, 805-525-0612.

New!
MVL #5 (1990)

Available end of September.
Cost: \$12.95 postpaid

Letters to the Editor



To the editor:

I love the society and your magazine. I've been a grower for only one year and now I'm hooked! I have violets on my mind constantly. If I'm not picking, pruning, touching, turning or watering, I'm reading — everything I can find concerning how to grow violets. My husband said I should know how many hairs are on each leaf, as much as I look at them.

Until a year ago, I thought all there was to African violets was a little dried up plant sitting in a grandma's kitchen window, with two or three purple blooms; or five or six plants on a table in a corner of our local greenhouse that looked even worse. That's when I learned they even came in white.

Only after I decided to bring two of those pitiful plants home, did I realize what beauties they could be.

How lucky for me, through my hairdresser, I heard of a woman that was a member of AVSA. Now, I'm a devoted member. I don't know which thrills me most — another order of plants coming to my door, or my AVSA magazine in the mailbox.

Keep up the good work. We beginners need all the help we can get.

A lover of violets,
Carolyn Beckner
Rt. 5
Princeton, KY 42445

To the editor:

I have been wondering what ever happened to Baker's Violets, which used to advertise in AVM, and in the now defunct *House Plants and Porch Gardens*. I don't even see the plants offered by other suppliers.

Also, I would like to find out if there are any members in the extreme southern part of Bre-

vard County, Florida. It is so difficult to find unique plants in our locale that I occasionally resort to mail order, or check suppliers in other parts of Florida when I'm visiting friends and relatives. The supermarkets and nurseries usually have plain, unnamed violets. I pounce on an occasional variegated, fantasy, or trailer. I'm a mom, go to school, and work, and my time with my violets is limited — but precious. My daughter is getting interested in them now, too, even though she's only five. If there are members in the Melbourne or Palm Bay area who wish, like I do, for others with whom to share the enthusiasm for African violets, I would love to hear from them.

Sincerely,
Marian Roth
1490 Malibu Circle, N.E. #108
Palm Bay, FL 32905

To AVSA:

I am writing to thank AVSA for the award #P.05 that was presented to Pomona Valley AVS for "Best Affiliate Newsletter Publication," at the 1990 National Convention.

Our club was honored to receive the award and our corresponding secretary, Cindy Myers, who did it all, was thrilled.

Sincerely,
Marna Music, Treasurer
22970 Glencrest
Pomona, CA 91767

Update Your Judges Handbook
Order the 1990 Revised pages today.

Cost - \$3.50 postpaid
If you have the 1986 Handbook with the yellow cover, you need the 1990 Revised pages.
Send \$3.50 to AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609,
Beaumont, Texas 77704

BOOKS

A Review

Flowering Houseplants ... Time-Life Gardener's Guide

Anne Tinari

If you are an ardent reader of the popular TIME-LIFE Books, you will be interested to know another beautiful book is now on the market to delight any horticultural fan.

This colorful 9 x 11 hard-back book, *Flowering Houseplants, The Time-Life Gardener's Guide* is one of a series on good gardening.

Its contents are divided into six areas: The Indoor Environment, Care and Cultivation, New Plants from Old, Houseplants on Display, Working in Tandem with Nature, and Dictionary of Houseplants. There are many colorful pages of detailed illustrations and life-like drawings showing the proper care and culture of some of America's most popular houseplants.

Included is an interesting, illustrated section on cross pollination of African violets, giving step-by-step instructions on hybridizing and preparing of the seed pod. A chapter is also included, in detail, on training African violets and preparing plants for show. This should be most interesting to all who grow for show. It describes what the judges look for in African violets, exploring the point system used in judging at our national shows.

One chapter deals with proper handling of plants when problems occur and exploring the techniques and tips of proper care and culture on many houseplants. Interesting suggestions are explained on controlling insects without insecticides.

Included is a dictionary of flowering houseplants providing detailed descriptions of more than 100 genera, furnishing information on their individual needs.

In the acknowledgement accolades were given our editor Jane Birge, Mary Boland, president of AVSA, Lyndon Lyon Greenhouse and Bev Promersberger, vice chairman of Membership & Promotion.

For reader information on obtaining this book, write:

Time-Life Customer Service
P. O. Box C-32068
Richmond, VA 23261-2068

Thank You

To all members of AVSA,

I am not a writer, nor can I express my thoughts as my Bill did.

Somehow, I want to express my appreciation to AVSA, state societies and clubs from many localities.

The cards, letters, phone calls, etc., were deeply appreciated by Bill and me during his brief illness.

Now, the kindness and sympathy expressed since his death are more deeply appreciated than any words of thanks can ever express.

Bill was a "man with a dream." We followed that dream to Green Circle Growers and Ohio and "pursued it with haste!" It was over too soon.

Bill had other dreams: he wanted to serve on the AVSA Board and wanted to write two books — one on genetics and the other to be titled, "Yellow Fever," the story of the journey of the yellow violet from Missouri - Nolan Blansit - to Ohio.

A notation of Bill's I found, seems to "sum it all up" as he would:

"On Death and Immortality — Let us look to posterity rather than eternity for our confirmation, and trust that good people will continue to hold dear and work for the things we loved, the prizes we sought, the attainments that eluded our grasp."

He will be missed!

My deepest appreciation,
Jimmie L. Johnson, wife of Billy J. Johnson,
AVM "Ask Your Hybridizer" columnist

Dixie Holds Largest Convention Yet!

*Lynda Welchel
San Antonio, TX*

The Dixie African Violet Society's Show and Convention were held in San Antonio, TX, April 25-29, 1990. The number of registered delegates exceeded the all-time record for Dixie AVS. A total of 22 states were represented, in addition to delegates from Mexico and the Republic of Panama. There were 406 entries in horticulture and 52 in design.

Top winners at the convention were:

Commercial Display Tables - 1st Place, Wilson's Violet Haven; 2nd Place, Jeannette's Jesneriads; 3rd Place, Shirley's House of Violets and 4th Place, Hortense's African Violets.

The results in the Amateur Division were:

Best of Show, *First Child*, Richard Nicholas; 2nd best of show, *Precious Pink*, Anne Nicholas; 3rd best of show, *Species Pendula*, Dea Johnson; Best of Show (Design), Mary Lou Harden; 2nd best design, Delores Gibbs; sweepstakes (horticulture), Pat Champagne; sweepstakes (horticulture & design), Dea Johnson; best gesneriad, *Strep. Trident*, Charlsie Urquhart.

The 1991 convention will be held in Jackson, Mississippi.



**Best In show — *First Child*
grown by Richard Nicholas**



Best Commercial Display Table — Wilson's Violet Haven, Bryan, Texas

(Photos by George McCleary)

1990 Supplement

AVSA Judges, Affiliates & Commercial Members

AVSA Judges, *Senior Judges, MMaster Judges, s Student Judges and +Teachers

(These names have been checked with the AVSA office and Bill Foster, Shows & Judges Chairman.
Send any changes, additions or corrections to the AVSA Office, c/o Nancy Lawrence.)

BERMUDA

Foggo, Elaine S., P. O. Box DD 202, St. David's DDBX

CANADA

s Anderson, Darlene, #1801 190 Exbury Road, Downsview, Ontario M3M 1R8

Anderson, Mrs. T. A., 3 Burns Dr., Halifax, NS B3P 1V4

s Beaver, Ina, 2 Shamrock Dr., Dartmouth, NS B3A 2Y7

Belanger, Claude, 3110 Place Byzance, Brossard, Quebec J4Z 2T9

Bell, Mrs. Jean, Codys RR 4, Queens County, NB E0E 1E0

*Belliveau, Mrs. Eva, 10 Vista Dr., Moncton NB E1A 4L5

s Biljan, Angele, 5 Oakridge Blvd., Nepean, Ontario K2G 2T6

Bonk, Mrs. Isabelle, Box 10, Summerberry, Sask S0G 4W0

Britten, Arlene T., 6314 Chebucto Rd., Halifax NS B3L 1K8

s Brooks, Susan A., 260 Douglas Ave., St. John Prov., NB E2K 1E6

*Brownlie, Doris M., 600 Silvercreek Blvd. #80, Mississauga, Ontario L5A 2B4

s Cain, Francine, 45 Wright Dr., Moncton NB E1E 2H3

s Chevrefils, Rolland, 419 BL. Grenier Sud, Lac Pare RR 1 Chertsey, Quebec J0K 3K0

s Chevrefils, Denyse, 419 BL. Grenier Sud, Lac Pare RR1 Chertsey, Quebec J0K 3K0

s Chevrier, Jean-Guy, 655 Beauport, Repentigny, Quebec J6A 2E9

s Corbett, Sharon J., 8206 162 St., Edmonton, Alberta T5R 2L7

s Corbett, Jacques Nicole, 289 Cabano, LaSalle, Quebec H8R 2M2

Croteau, Denis, 3055 Ter Abenaquis, Longueuil, Quebec J4M 2B6

s Cruz, Mr. Vasco, 211 Grer Road, Toronto, Ontario M5M 3N5

s Cunningham, Mrs. Betty, 466 Falgarwood Drive, Oakville, Ontario L6H 1N3

Dawson, Mrs. George E., 36 High St., Hamilton, Ontario L8T 3Z3

Decelles, Therese, 298 De Jumonville, Boucherville J4B 1J9

Decelles, Yvon, 298 De Jumonville, Boucherville J4B 1J9

*Durand, Greta, #317-21 Lakeshore Rd., Pointe Claire, Quebec H9S 5N3

Elston, Eleanor, 4 Superior Ave., #18, Toronto, Ontario M8W 2M4

Goretsky, Winston J., 3308 Barr Rd. NW, Calgary, Alberta T2L 1M8

Goulding, Mrs. Mary S., 1096 Ridgewood Dr., Halifax, NS B3H 3Y4

Harriman, Mr. R. F., 3475 Trenholme Ave., Montreal, Quebec H4B 1X8

s Heazle, Ralph, 70 16th St., Roxboro, Quebec H8Y 1P2

Henry, Mrs. Irene, 349 Hyman Dr., Dollard Des Ormeaux, Quebec H9B 1L5

s Herbatuk, Mrs. Ann, 2400 Auvergne, Duvernay, Laval, Quebec H7E 1Z4

Hodgson, Larry, 1449 Av William, Sillery, Quebec G1S 4G5

Hughes, Mrs. Frank, 14 MacArthur Ave., Moncton, NB E1C 3L8

s Jarratt, Mrs. Margaret V., 11736-37B Ave., Edmonton, Alberta T6J 0K4

Johnson, Louise, P. O. Box 107, Hudson Heights, Quebec J0P 1J0

Kosowan, Mrs. Murna A., 57 Davidson St., Barrie, Ontario L4M 3S1

*Lewis, Mrs. Hilda, 202 Spring Park Rd., Charlottetown, PEI C1A 3Y9

+Lex, Sandra, 70 Enfield Ave., Toronto, Ontario M8W 1T9

MacNeil, Janice, 13 Montclair Ave., Moncton, NB E1E 1T7

*McCabe, Mr. Robert, 769 Holt Cres., Ottawa, Ontario

s McPhail, Mrs. Rita, 6904 Bilbao Lane, Mississauga, Ontario L5N

1R2

s Mitchell, Mrs. L., 12911-82 St., Edmonton, Alberta T5E 2T3

* Moffett, Anne, PO Box 198, Sussex, NB E0E 1P0

Newbold, Mrs. Mavis, 39 Latzer Cres., Brantford, Ontario N3V 1E1

s Normand, Mr. Miron, 7064 Marie Cerin-Lajoie Ave., Anjou, Quebec H1J 2R9

s Owens, Mrs. Dorothy, 6168 Cedar St., Halifax, NS B3H 2J7

s Salamanowicz, Mr. Walter, 324 Cantrell Dr., SW, Calgary, Alberta T2W 2C6

Salamanowicz, K. Evelyn, 324 Cantrell Dr., SW, Calgary, Alberta T2W 2C6

Staples, M. L. (Fred), 2199 Haygate Crescent, Mississauga, Ontario L5K 1L7

+*Tapping, Elizabeth A., 1512-511 The West Mall, Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 1G5

*Towler, Mrs. Helen, 619 36th St., SW, Calgary, Alberta T3C 1R1

s Vandam, Mrs. H. A., 6015 Lockinvar Rd., SW, Calgary, Alberta T3E 5X4

s Vandam, J (Hans), 6015 Lockinvar Rd., SW, Calgary, Alberta T3E 5X4

s Vaughan, Margaret, 6416 Rundlehorn Dr., NE, Calgary, Alberta T1Y 2B8

*Williams, Mrs. Beverley, 3052 Grenville Dr., Mississauga, Ontario L5A 2P7

s Wilson, Ms. Valerie E., 151 Glen Ave., Ottawa, Ont., K1S 3A1

Wiseman, Lois, 45 Shea St., Sackville, NS B4C 2B2

Wolfe, Mrs. Inez, 3536 Autumn Leaf Cr., Mississauga, Ontario L5L 1K5

*Wonnacott, S. L., 16 Abbotsford Place NE, Calgary, Alberta T2A 6V2

s Wood, Jane R., 130 Ranch Rd., Riverview Prov., NB E1B 1P3

SOUTH AFRICA

+*Halford, Mrs. C. C., Union Farm, P. O. Pyramid 0120, Transvaal 0120

UNITED STATES

ALABAMA

+*Anderson, Mrs. Walter, 3168 Star Lake Dr., Birmingham 35226

Bamman, Mrs. Richard K., 100 Rosemont Circle, Dothan 36303

*Bell, Mrs. Palmer H., 473 Shadet Crest Rd., Birmingham 35226

Benton, Myra, Rt. 6 Box 270, Andalusia 36420

+*Breckenridge, Mrs. J. M., 1042 S. 19th Ave., Birmingham 35205

s Brown, Ophelia B., 708 Owens St., Dothan 36301

s Buck, Mrs. Louise, P.O. Box 116, Northport 35476

Buie, Mrs. Ruth, Rt. 4 Box 115 Kinsey Rd., Dothan 36303

Buie, Mrs. Sherry, 642 Seminole, Auburn 36830

Crane, Mrs. J. L., 2008 Bullard St., Montgomery 36106

Culver, Mrs. Virgil, 1128 Druid Hills Dr., Montgomery 36111

M Davis, Mrs. Ed R., 211 North Valley St., Montevallo 35115

M Eichelberger, Ruby T., 1409 S. 10th St., Birmingham 35205

s Fair, Sarah, 1461 Meriwether Rd., Montgomery 36117

Ferguson, Donald, 5831 Oakwild Dr., Montgomery 36117

- +*Fuller, Elizabeth, 3412 S. Perry St., Montgomery 36105
- Hall, Mrs. Coyle L., 1406 Briarcliff, Northport 35476
- s Hassell, Mrs. William C., 1261 50th Place St., Birmingham 35222
- s Hayes, Elizabeth K., 3812 Buckingham Pl., Birmingham 35243
- s Henry, Mrs. Betty S., 9001 Old Marion Road, Tuscaloosa 35405
- s Hicks, Jean Hall, 533 Canterbury Road, Pelham 35124
- * Irwin, Mrs. E. M., P. O. Box 1105, Cardendale 35071
- s Jackson, Michael, 1220 14th St. N., Bessemer 35020
- +*Lockhart, Mrs. Roy, P. O. Box 20051, Birmingham 35216
- Loerch, Mrs. Wm. J., 811 Pine Forest Dr., Wetumpka 36092
- Moseley, Mary H., 710 Duval Dr., Montgomery 36109
- Pate, Leroy, Rt. 4 Box 160-F, Gordo 35466
- +*Phytyon, Peg, 660 Haggerty Rd., Wetumpka 36092
- Price, Mary F., 748 Dubuque Dr., Montgomery 36109
- Shirley, Mrs. James H., Rt. 7 Box 25, Northport 35476
- * Sisler, Mrs. Orland O., 2833 Ashley Ave., Montgomery 36109
- Strickland, Ben, 8 Wynnwood Rd., Midland City 36350
- Strickland, Dorothy, 8 Wynnwood Rd., Midland City 36350
- * Strock, Mrs. Barbara, Rt. 1 Box 209, Elmore 36025
- Thomley, Christie D., 2602 Evans Dr., Dothan 36303
- * Till, Doris, 2927 Canterbury Ct., Montgomery 36111
- * Vincent, M. R., 212 Sylvan Dr., Enterprise 36330
- * Von Hermann, Mrs. C. F., Jr., 2612 Long Bow Dr., Birmingham 35214
- s Wilson, Mrs. O. W., 4105 Lake Circle North, Mobile 36609

ALASKA

- Gibson, Mrs. Donald W., 8500 Rangeview Ave., Anchorage 99504
- +*Hendricks, Beverly, 4178 Apollo Dr., Anchorage 99504
- Martindale, Frances, 1514 Atkinson Dr., Anchorage 99504
- s Moody, Lucy, P. O. Box 370, Chugiak 99567
- Nelson, Dodie, 2412 E. 52nd #1, Anchorage 99507
- s Roberts, Roy, P. O. Box 190247, Anchorage 99519
- Talley, Venice I., 3204 Woodland Pk. Dr., Anchorage 99517
- Walsh, Amelia, 2045 Eastridge Dr., Anchorage 99501

ARIZONA

- +*Kemmerling, Christine, 4042 E. Windrose Drive, Phoenix 85032
- Loomis, Ruth, 603 N. San Francisco, Flagstaff 86001
- s Sacco, Susanne, 6302 E. Julia, Tucson 85710
- Sagert, Sylvia, 5503 N. Calle Del Santo Way, Phoenix 85018

ARKANSAS

- Loewer, Mrs. D. H., 18 Galway, Wynne 72396
- s Ross, Elise M., 2808 Sunny Lane, Fayetteville 72703

CALIFORNIA

- s Allustiarti, Mrs. Evelyn, 1812 El Verano Way, Belmont 94002
- Alvarez, Susan, 740 E. Virginia Terr., Santa Paula 93060
- Alvarez, Charles, 740 E. Virginia Terr., Santa Paula 93060
- Barker, Gloria, 6751 Townview Ct., San Diego 92120
- Barker, Tamra, 405 Antioch Drive, Davis 95616
- s Barnes, Stanley E., 3008 N. Fisher, Fresno 93703
- Bastianelli, Mrs. Susan, 9840 Oakwilde, Stockton 95212
- +*Beck, Gary R., 1155 Pine St. #4, San Francisco 94109
- Benson, Margie M., 1519 Mt. Diablo, San Mateo 94401
- Botsco, Margaret, 19301 Firestone Circle, Huntington Beach 92648
- +*Breden, Ralph, 127 Via Los Altos, Redondo Beach 90277
- Bruce, Ms. Marion N., 4030 Laguna Ave., Oakland 94602
- Burgess, Toni, 6824 Town View Ln, San Diego 92120
- Chase, Mrs. Celine K., 482 Rutherford Ave., Redwood City 94061
- * Cohen, Mrs. Pat, 3741 Claremont, Irvine 92714
- s Coleman, Muriel D., 4241 E. Regency Ave., Orange 92667
- Corinne, Mrs. Cathy, 197 Archer Dr., Santa Cruz 95060
- * Crouchet, George, 2240 Pine Ave., Long Beach 90806
- DeAngelis, S. L., 2401 Lee Ave., Arcadia 91006
- * Elkin, Mrs. Barbara Jane, 2855 Gayle Lane, Auburn 95603
- Fallaw, June, P. O. Box 8157, Pittsburgh 94565
- s Gawienowski, Dorothy, 1140 Northumberland Dr., Sunnyvale 94087
- Gealy, Carroll B., 1924 Elmsbury Rd., Westlake Village 91361
- s Geek, Honey, 8381 Daren Cir., Huntington Beach 92646
- Goode, Mrs. Mary A., 646 Head St., San Francisco 94132
- Haffner, Sue, 3015 Timmy, Clovis 93612
- +M Hertel, Mrs. R. E., 9495 S. Wales Way, Elk Grove 95624

COLORADO

- s Balliu, Catherine, 10927 W. 103rd Cir., Westminster 80020
- s Curtis, Linda, 7161 Pierce St., Arvada 80003
- Griffith, Deborah S., 1557 S. Sheridan Blvd., Lakewood 80226
- Hann, Mrs. Richard C., 3338 S. Glencoe St., Denver 80222
- s Hull, Robert, 930 E. 10th Ave., Broomfield 80020
- M Kiesling, Mrs. Paul Wm., 475 Madison, Denver 80206
- s Lalanne, Judie, 8076 S. Spruce Cr., Englewood 80112
- Laney, Jennie M., 3028 Cortez St., Fort Collins 80525
- s Levine, Nelly, 8797 Iris St., Arvada 80005
- s Margetts, Mrs. H. W., 17 Vassar Court, Longmont 80501
- s Miller, Mrs. Jean Marie, 6661 Upham Dr., Arvada 80003
- * Olander, Mrs. Martha, 3333 E. Florida Ave. #21, Denver 80210
- Otto, Norah E., Magnolia Star Rt., Nederland 80466
- Ratte, Mrs. James C., Box 382, Black Hawk 80422
- * Roesch, Mrs. Dorothy J., 2575 S. Wadsworth Ct., Denver 80227
- * Schaetzl, Mrs. Margaret T., 2451 S. Jasmine Place, Denver 80222
- s Slavin-Polevoy, Madelin, 1900 E. Girard Pl., #302, Englewood 80110
- Sorensen, Mrs. Janice, 8357 E. Jamison Circle South, Englewood

80112

- s Springer, Shiloh, P. O. Box 485, Indian Hills 80454
s Thompson, Linda, 3351 So. Field #168, Lakewood 80227
* Tyson, Miss Nell-Sue, 2030 E. Amherst Ave., Denver 80210

CONNECTICUT

- m Adams, Mrs. Joseph F., Jr., 186 Waverly Rd., Shelton 06484
s Bacon, Julia, 160 Aspetuck Village, New Milford 06776
Bower, Richard C., 239 Fort Path Rd., Madison 06443
Butler, Ms. Ann W., 8 Buell St., North Haven 06473
s Clem, Mrs. Wm., 5 Beechwood Rd., Branford 06405
s Corbett, Arline C., 26 Strathmore Lane, Madison 06443
s Fagan, Cindy, 1 Anthony Rd., Bolton 06043
Fargeot, Mrs. Julius, 235 Alps Rd., Branford 06405
* Hayes, Nancy G., 9 Cobblestone Rd., Bloomfield 06002
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s Ostrosky, Mrs. Anne, 216 Chestnut Hill Rd., Norwalk 06851
Rourke, Edna, 99 Old Stratford Rd., Shelton 06484
m Traskers, Mrs. Stanley J., 1514 Saybrook Rd., Haddam 06438
s Utter, Earl, 3425 Old Town Road, Bridgeport 06606
s Wallach, Mrs. Lynn, 55 Red Coat Rd., Westport 06880
Wheeler, Roger W., P. O. Box 263, Shelton 06484

DELAWARE

- Abramson, Mrs. D. G., 4003 Greenmount Rd., Longwood, Wilmington 19810
Behnke, Mrs. Wallace P., 1735 Old Baltimore Pike, Newark 19702
+*Callaghan, Mrs. John J., 2806 Rickdale Rd., Wilmington 19810
Cattlett, Mrs. Carol, 2642 Majestic Dr., Wilmington 19810
Celano, Theresa, 1703 Bancroft Pkwy., Wilmington 19806
Celano, Mrs. Angeline, 4927 Lancaster Pike, Sedgeley Farms, Wilmington 19807
Gregg, Mrs. Betty, 2817 Grubb Rd., Wilmington 19810
Mathew, Mrs. Sareena T., 3119 Albemarle Rd., Wilmington 19808
McMann, Mrs. Leland J., 2421 Lori Ln. S Tarleton, Wilmington 19810
Pyle, Mrs. Robert E., Jr., 2015 Foulk Rd., Wilmington 19810

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- s Sedgwick, Gregory, 916 East Capital St., Apt. C, Washington, D.C. 20003

FLORIDA

- s Blanton, Reba, 10611 Bridge Creek Dr., Pensacola 32506
Boyer, James R., 8652 Savory Dr., Orlando 32825
s Brown, Claudette, 3306 Ida Ln., Lakeland 33803
Carter, Mrs. Catherine A., 13774 Night Hawk Ct., Jacksonville 32224
Cherry, Mrs. Neil G., Jr., 219 Brookview Dr., N, Jacksonville 32225
Cohen, Lottie M., 1407 Berwyn Rd., Orlando 32806
s Courson, Barbara J., 527 Willow Run Knoll, Lakeland 33813
s Davis, Marta G., 3600 E. Grant St., Orlando 32812
Droege, Alyce D., 1318 Kewanee Trail, Maitland 32751
Dulaney, Mrs. Jane, 117 Gateway Estates, Florida City 33034
Durand, Virginia M., 5922 Gamble Dr., Orlando 32808
* Eichenberger, Mrs. William, 1544 Lime St., Clearwater 34616
s Farnsworth, Mr. V. L., 496 S. Garden Dr., Lakeland 33813
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Gill, Dorothea, 2037 Sandra Dr., Clearwater 34624
s Goebel, Barbara, 3401 Blueridge Dr., Pensacola 32504
* Goldstein, Mrs. Jack, 1001 Diplomat Pkwy., Hollywood 33019
+*Green, Mr. Bob L., 997 Botany Ln., Rockledge 32955
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* Hann, Mrs. Dorothy, 2525 Wynnewood Dr., Clearwater 34623
* Harden, Mary Lou, 910 W. Hilsboro, Seffner 33584
Hartman, Lawanda, 10274 Jolynn Rd., Jacksonville 32225
Hayes, Judson H., 2824 Oak Cove Ln., Jacksonville 32211
Hayes, Mrs. Judson H., 2824 Oak Cove Ln., Jacksonville 32211
Hill, Sharon M., P. O. Box 5085, Gulfport 33737
* Hilton, Rita G., 2295 W. Helen Cir., Bartow 33830
Howell, Chris, 637 Carey Pl., Lakeland 33803
s Howland, Sharon, 5542 Bradley St., Pensacola 32526
Hukle, Cheryl, Rt. 9, Box 5 Wilkins Rd., Tampa 33610
Iloo, Phillip, 8580 SW 124th St., Miami 33156
s Jacobson, Linda, 9613 55th St., Temple Terrace 33617

Johnson, Mary L., 803 Lake Palm Dr., Largo 33541

- +*Johnson, Mrs. H. Steven, 4177 Versailles Dr., Orlando 32808
s Jones, Jean A., 9767 Huntsman Path, Pensacola 32514
Kellum, Jennifer S., 2618 Flamingo Ln., Ft. Lauderdale 33312
Lansford, Dee, 288 Auriga Dr., Orange Park 32073
Malone, Dorothy, 8051 Tara Ln., Jacksonville 32216
s Marks, Toby, 8210 NW 54th St., Lauderhill 33351
Marshall, Linda M., 5153 NW 30th Ct., Margate 33063
s Martinez, Jo Anne, 809 Taray de Avila, Tampa 33613
McVicker, Pearl, 101 Lake Thomas Dr., Winter Haven 33880
* Merritt, Mrs. Fayette, 4200 Croydon Rd., Pensacola 32514
Miller, Mrs. Hazel V., 1307 15th St. SW, Winter Haven 33880
Minker, Mrs. Alice, P. O. Box 366, Green Cove Springs 32043
s Nichols, Dr. Ed., P. O. Box 366, Green Cove Springs 32043
Nichols, Kay, P. O. Box 366, Green Cove Springs 32043
* Partain, Judy, No. 9 Hummingbird, Winter Haven 33884
Ramsey, Porter L., Jr., 1241 Grove Park Blvd., Jacksonville 32216
Ramsey, Mrs. Porter L., Jr., 1241 Grove Park Blvd., Jacksonville 32216

+m Richardson, Mrs. J. A. W., 2315 Lakeshore Dr., Tavares 32778

- +*Robinson, Mrs. M. W., 3470 NW 21st Ave., Ft. Lauderdale 33309
Robinson, Barbara A., 761 Brookside Rd., Maitland 32751

- s Ross, Jean Marie, 441 Hadley Dr., Palm Harbor 33563
Sanger, R. H., 3700 Ponce De Leon Blvd., Sebring 33872
s Schiffriin, Carole, 6760 S. Grande Dr., Boca Raton 33433
Schreck, Mrs. E. E., 2055 S. Floral Ave. #328, Bartow 33830
s Schwindt, Pat, 1625 S. Delaney Ave., Orlando 32805
s Simmons, Farris, 2923 Kirkwell Ave., Panama City 32405
Spangler, Walter E., 6285 31st Ave. N, St. Petersburg 33710
Spangler, Glenda D., 6285 31st Ave. N, St. Petersburg 33710
Sprayberry, Lois R., 840 Linton Ave., Orlando 32809
Starr, Estelle, 2602 Graupera St., Pensacola 32507
Starr, George B., 2602 Graupera St., Pensacola 32507
Stuck, Mrs. Norman, 8152 Arble Dr., Jacksonville 32211
m Suder, Mrs. Alvina H., 1150 8th Ave., SW, #2723, Largo 34640
Sullivan, Mary Etta, 2358 Cincinnati Ave., Panama City 32405
* Thompson, Catherine, 3941-H SW 17th Lane, Gainesville 32605
Turner, Mr. Milton, 39038 Pretty Pond Rd., Zephyrhills 33540
s Walsh, Peggy, 542 E. Ten Mile Rd., Pensacola 32514

* Whitaker, DoDe, 2085 Leeward Lane, Merritt Island 32953

- s Williams, Virginia, 911 Rio St. Johns Dr., Jacksonville 32211

s Woody, Edna R., 3911 Napoli Rd., Panama City 32405

s Woody, Edward G., 3911 Napoli Rd., Panama City 32405

GEORGIA

- Barnette, W. W., 1794 Angelique Dr., Decatur 30033
Bentley, Mrs. W. P., 20 Mulberry Lane, Augusta 30909
Christian, Mrs. Hinton D., 110 Milledge Terr. Condo 1, Athens 30606
Cumphon, Pierce, 219 Sunset Dr., Warner Robins 31088
Cumphon, Joan, 219 Sunset Dr., Warner Robins 31088
s Eisman, Jo Ann, 753 N. Indian Creek Dr., Clarkston 30021
Hughes, Joyce C., 611 Wimbish Rd., Macon 31210
Jordan, Mrs. Stuard, Rt. 3 Box 3110, Royston 30662
s Kotliar, Margaret, 112 Skyview Ct., Athens 30606
* Lewis, Betty, 935 Ridgedale Dr., Lawrenceville 30245
Mackey, Hugh N., 299 Stockwood Dr., Woodstock 30188
Miles, Mrs. Sharon, 1954 Liberty Church Rd., Hepzibah 30815
s Moon, Jan, 2216 Kimberly Dr., Augusta 30904
Moulder, Miss M. V., 2025 Peachtree Rd., NE, Apt. 1215, Atlanta 30309
+*Mugovero, Diane, 8757 Elon Trail, Jonesboro 30236
Norris, Mrs. Theresa S., 1362 Crooked Tree Court, Lilburn 30247
* Richardson, Jack L., 2721 N. Druid Hills, Atlanta 30329
Selman, Angelika, 3580 Milledgeville Rd., Augusta 30909
s Simpson, Glenda, 101 Doris St., St. Marys 31558
Stone, Mary H., 3462 Milledgeville Rd., Augusta 30909
s Wheatley, Mildred M., 2207 Breckenbridge Ave., Augusta 30904

ILLINOIS

- Aske, Mrs. Mildred, 2702 N. Monticello, Chicago 60647
Bruns, Joseph J., 1220 Stratford Ln., Hanover Park 60103
s Compton, Martha, 3003 E. Oakland Ave., Bloomington 61701
s Corbett, Barbara, 2427 Colfax St., Evanston 60201
s Corbett, Jay, 2427 Colfax St., Evanston 60201

- Dublinski, Mrs. Susan, 760 Portree Ln., Lake Zurich 60047
 s Duchien, Terry, 117 Lynn, Washington 61571
 Goodsell, Barbara, 429 Cherry Ln., Glenview 60025
 Guenther, Shirley M., 7812 Linder Ave., Morton Grove 60053
 * Hogan, Florise M., 1220 31st St., Rockford 61108
 m Hood, Mrs. Frank, Jr., Box 80 Rt. 1, Seaton 61476
 Johnson, Mrs. Edward, 4901 N. Ozanam Ave., Norridge 60656
 Klein, Darlene, RR 1, Metamora 61548
 s Krewer, Mrs. Wm. A., 1141N. Beverly Lane, Arlington Hgts. 60004
 * Landgren, Mrs. George, 2430 Iroquois Rd., Wilmette 60091
 s Lasky, Ms. Renee, 8110 Gross Point Rd., Morton Grove 60053
 Mann, Mrs. Kenneth, 507 E. Grove St., Bloomington 61701
 m McIntosh, Mrs. George J., 611 N. Main St., Normal 61761
 s Okerstrom, Karen, 1344 Poplar Ct., Homewood 60430
 * Palm, Mrs. Elinor A., 4640 W. 182nd Pl., Country Club Hills 60478
 Pugsley, Joan A., 28693 Ravine Dr., Barrington 60010
 * Romanow, Mrs. Connie, 15408 Linden Dr., Oak Forest 60452
 * Schroeder, Mrs. Raymond E., 217 Andrew Ave., Dwight 60420
 +m Schroeder, Mrs. Wayne, 1020 N. Harlem, Apt. 4F, River Forest 60305
 s Szewczyk, Frank G., 17223 Fisk, E. Hazelcrest 60429
 m Teater, Mrs. Herman, 1211 E. Elmhurst, Peoria 61603
 m Tiedeman, Mrs. H. R., 1008 Bakewell, Normal 61761
 Watkins, Mrs. Charles, 709 Virginia Ave., Normal 61761
 s Zimmerman, Maureen, 1100 Kenilworth Dr., Wheeling 60090
- INDIANA**
- s Cline, Ethel, 3125 Valley Farms Rd., Indianapolis 46214
 Willey, Jean, 851 Kenmare Pky., Crown Point 46307
- IOWA**
- m Ilstrup, Mrs. George, 1252 42nd St., Des Moines 50311
 +Jones, Mrs. Maurice E., 1206 7th St., Durant 52747
 Oelmann, Deb, P. O. Box 434, 303 Park Ave., Dows 50071
 * Schafer, Mrs. R. N., 3830 Woodland Ct., Davenport 52807
 Tyler, Mrs. Janice K., 8813 Sunflower Circle, Des Moines 50322
 s Watts, Wayne, 620 Ray St., Colo 50056
 Watts, Mrs. Wayne, 620 Ray St., Colo 50056
- KANSAS**
- Gall, Mrs. John L., 3200 W. 82nd Terr., Leawood 66206
 Jones, Mrs. Gladys, Rt. 1 Box 280, Rose Hill 67133
 s Knobbe, Sue K., 1820 Stratford Rd., Olathe 66062
 s McCurnin, Grace R., 6812 Reeds Rd., Overland Park 66204
 * Montgomery, Isla, 216 Ross, Downs 67437
 s Nelson, Laurie, R. R. 4 Box 223, Lawrence 66044
 s Prince, Sylvia E., 9826 West 101 Terrace, Overland Park 66212
 s Richards, Pat, 15105 Seminole Drive, Olathe 66062
 Russell, Raymond L., 807 W. 27th Terr., Lawrence 66046
 * Taylor, Tricia A., 7642 High Dr., Prairie Village 66208
 * Weir, Mrs. Robert, 490 Terrace Trail East, Lake Quivira 66106
 Wieditz, Mrs. Faye, 1351 Caddy Lane, Wichita 67212
- LOUISIANA**
- Arcement, Mrs. Lilly B., 3601 Hwy. 1, Napoleonville 70390
 * Armstrong, Genelle, 1313 Gardenia Dr., Metairie 70005
 Armstrong, Al, 1313 Gardenia Dr., Metairie 70005
 Ball, Mrs. Carl S., P. O. Box 122, Ball 71405
 s Barlow, Sallie, 30418 Fairway View Dr., Denham Springs 70726
 * Benge, Dorothy L., 5900 Wheeler, Metairie 70003
 s Borne, Mrs. Gail F., 4849 Alphonse Dr., Metairie 70006
 Boudreaux, Melba A., 843 Canal Rd., Napoleonville 70390
 +Brenner, Miss Penelope Ann, 3736 Lang St., New Orleans 70131
 * D'Antoni, Anite, 4436 W. Brooktown, Baton Rouge 70805
 David, Nancy, 110 St. Jude, New Roads 70760
 Dazet, Mrs. Leonard, Box 625, Empire 70050
 Domiano, Jeannette, 2173 Leslie St., Gretna 70056
 Dyson, Lynne, 409 Snead St., Berwick 70342
 Dyson, Mrs. James, 409 Snead St., Berwick 70342
 Guarisco, Janis S., P. O. Box 1128, Morgan City 70381
 Hagerman, Nancy, 605 Alice Dr., Lafayette 70503
 Lindsly, Mrs. L. G., 7734 Wimbledon Ave., Baton Rouge 70810
 Marceaux, Mrs. Alice, Rt. 3 Box 959, Morgan City 70380
 McClure, Mrs. Wesley, Jr., 7970 Green Acres Dr., Baton Rouge 70811
- +*McFarland, Mrs. Mary T., 3125 Blackwell Dr., Baton Rouge 70805
 s Nugent, Mrs. R. M., 4203 Rigolette Rd., Pineville 71360
 Oufnac, Mrs. Kathy, 13534 New Wood Ave., Rt. 4, Baton Rouge 70818
 * Ozio, Mrs. Yvonne, 1009 Ditch Ave., Morgan City 70380
 +*Ozio, Mr. L. T., Jr., 1009 Ditch Ave., Morgan City 70380
 * Peres, Leora T., 220 S. Polk, Rayne 70578
 Pippin, Jane D., 9996 Hwy. 165, Forest Hill 71430
 * Plauche, Mrs. Sadie K., 5226 Greenridge Dr., Baton Rouge 70814
 Ramires, Mrs. George, Jr., 1620 Willowbend Dr., Morgan City 70380
 Ramires, Mr. George, Jr., 1620 Willowbend Dr., Morgan City 70380
 Simmons, Mrs. V. Jerry, R.R. 1, 140 Riverview, Patterson 70392
 * Spear, Mrs. J. F., 7660 Amite Church Rd., Denham Springs 70726
 * Voorhees, Mrs. Audrey K., 857 Filmore Ave., New Orleans 70124
 * Voorhees, Wynne John, 857 Filmore Ave., New Orleans 70124
 Williamson, Mrs. Joe L., 4704 England Dr., Alexandria 71303
 * Wilson, Mrs. O. P., 6126 Burgundy, Shreveport 71105
- MARYLAND**
- Armstrong, Linda Rochelle, 515 Murdock Rd., Baltimore 21212
 s Barbi, Kenneth W., 1809 View Top Court, Annapolis 21401
 +*Burns, Mrs. Howard, 8624 Delegge Rd., Baltimore 21237
 Haag, Mrs. Don J., 524 Murdock Rd., Baltimore 21212
 * Lages, Mrs. Betty Lou, 3609 Fort Hill Dr., Ellicott City 21043
 Moak, Frederick E., 18636 Bayleaf Way, Germantown 20874
 Richardson, M. Diane, 9207 Ravenwood Rd., Baltimore 21237
 m Sauter, Ms. Beatrice, 2123 Northland Rd., Baltimore 21207
 Stenger, Joyce A., 13601 Deerwater Dr., Germantown 20874
 Toolan, Sharon, 3903 Nemo Rd., Randallstown 21133
 Wood, Beryl J., 1134 Hudson Rd., Cambridge 21613
- MASSACHUSETTS**
- Balonis, Marcia, Boston Rd., P. O. Box 747, Groton 01450
 s Clark, Robert A., Jr., 15 Grove Street, Lawrence 01841
 Cook, Barbara, 28 Minot St., Falmouth 02540
 Cook, John, 28 Minot St., Falmouth 02540
 +*Courage, Alice M., 33 Essex St., Wakefield 01880
 +*Crisafulli, Mrs. Jessie, Amherst Rd., 290 Federal St., Belchertown 01007
 s Donoghue, Ms. Deirdre A., 32 B Reedsdale Street, Allston 02134
 s Eaton, Peggy, 12 Matchett St., Brighton 02135
 Jobert, Leola M., 755 Plymouth St., Whitman 02382
 Junkin, Ruth, 113 Offutt Dr., Bedford 01730
 m Kanelia, Mrs. Stephen C., 16 Mylod St., Walpole 02081
 Lass, David Alan, 19 Phillips Rd., Nahant 01908
 m MacLean, Mrs. J. Addison, 175 Mill St., Abington 02351
 s Montgomery, Harlan, 10 Regis Rd., Wellesley 02181
 s Nichols, Mrs. Edward M., 1152 Main St., Reading 01867
 Ormerod, Eleanor, 445 Sharps Lot Rd., Swansea 02777
 Warren, Mrs. Bertrand, P. O. Box 3664, Fall River 02722
 Wilson, Dolores E., 2 Moretta Dr., Peabody 01960
- MICHIGAN**
- s Benson, Jeanette, 8915 N. Dixboro Rd., S. Lyon 48178
 m Leslie, Mrs. Andrew, 7662 Woodview Dr., Apt. 1, Westland 48185
- MINNESOTA**
- Bann, Mrs. Ruth, 680 Marigold Ter., Fridley 55432
 Fleisch, Mrs. Kenneth, 4811 37th Ave. S., Minneapolis 55417
 s Graf, James S., 9207 4th Ave. S., Bloomington 55420
 s Graf, Gail, 9207 4th Ave. S., Bloomington 55420
 Harrington, Delores, 1620 Gardena Ave. NE, Fridley 55432
 Hultin, Mrs. Leroy E., 6150 Starlite Blvd. NE, Fridley 55432
 Johnson, Retha N., 5105 W. 62nd St., Edina 55436
 Johnson, Mrs. Richard M., 9316 170th Ave., Forest Lake 55025
 Johnson, Sharon E., 6657 E. Shadow Lk. Dr., Lino Lakes 55014
 Nelson, Mrs. Lorraine, 2430 Douglas Dr. N, Golden Valley 55422
 Paron, Mrs. Marino, Rt. 1 Box 270, North Branch 55056
 Tobin, Mrs. W. F., 2262 Brewster St., St. Paul 55108
 Trapp, Mrs. Monroe, 1 Indian Hills Dr., Circle Pines 55014
 Zondlo, Mrs. Charles, 3326 Lincoln St. NE, Minneapolis 55418
- MISSISSIPPI**
- * Fowler, Clyo C., 3420 Woodland Lake Rd., Hernando 38632

* Miller, Mrs. Linda, 1825 Brookhaven Dr., Southaven 38671
Sledge, Dr. Charles E., 23 Terrapin Hill Rd. S., Brandon 39042
* Wicht, Miss Jane, 203 Broad St., Hattiesburg 39401
s Winstead, Ricky N., Summer Oaks Dr., Hattiesburg 39402

MISSOURI

s Allinson, Mrs. Carol, 3914 Hardy, Kansas City 64133
s Anderson, Conrad, 16707 Larkspur Lane Apt. 1, Independence 64055
+*Aubuchon, Joan, 7330 Leona, St. Louis 63116
* Baumhauer, Mrs. Drew, 24 Fox Meadows, Sunset Hills 63127
Bellinger, Helen, 1240 S. Estate, Springfield 65804
Blacketer, Mrs. Perry W., 10410 Monroe, Kansas City 64137
s Blanton, Helen, 622 Riverside, St. Charles 63303
* Britton, Col. James, 3906 SW Harbor Dr., Lee's Summit 64082
Campbell, Mrs. Ethel M., 5543 E. Bennett, Springfield 65809
Carson, Doris F., 1702 Joplin, Joplin 64804
Cox, Ruby E., 1206 Wyvonne, Bethany 64424
Donnell, Ramona, 306 Ballard, Carl Junction 64834
Eaklor, Mrs. Lavera I., 245 Brackleigh Ln., Florissant 63031
s Evensen, Marilyn, 532 Kingridge Dr., Ballwin 63011
s French, Mrs. Paula, 107 Cornelia, Glendale 63122
* Gill, Mrs. Bernard F., 1015 Greenway Terr., Kansas City 64113
Golubski, Linda, 1416 A. St., Blue Springs 64015
s Grimm, C. L., 6815 Bristol, Kansas City 64133
Hamilton, Mrs. Virginia, 7 Carole Ln., Frontenac 63131
m Hamtil, Mrs. Francis J., King's Lane Farm, #27 Brook Ln., St. Charles 63303

Hapner, Mrs. Susan, 12789 Highstone Dr., St. Louis 63146
* Hart, Patricia M., 3350 Blue Ridge Blvd., Independence 64052
* Hill, Mrs. Sue I., 12201 E. 45th Terr., Independence 64055
s Holm, Miss Glenda, 6634 Fyler, St. Louis 63139
Holt, Mrs. H. L., 1128 Linden, St. Louis 63117
Jacobs, Mrs. Earl John, 1990 Winter Haven Dr., Imperial 63052
m Janus, Mrs. William, 130 N. Holmes, St. Louis 63122
Livingston, Mrs. C. M., Rt. 2 Box 369, Pleasant Hill 64080
Loveland, Gene M., 11303 S. Alley-Jackson Rd., Grain Valley 64029
m Meister, Mrs. Carl, 4459 Gemini, St. Louis 63128
Miller, Ardath L., 529 Ranch Dr., Manchester 63011
Moe, Jeannie, 2419 Mayer Dr., St. Charles 63301
s Payne, Peggy R., Rt. 3 Box 218, Hallsville 65255
s Pindexter, Rebecca, 4418 E. 107th St., Kansas City 64137
* Proctor, Mrs. Harold A., 6124 Ralston, Raytown 64133
Russom, Fran, 7022 Ethel, St. Louis 63117
s Schmidt, Ed, 5009 Foxdale Dr., St. Louis 63128
+*Smith, Mr. Edd Stretch, 4304 S. Compton Ave., St. Louis 63111
* Ward, Mrs. Charles E., 11805 E. 74th Terrace, Kansas City 64133
Wells, Esther Edwards, 948 Fair Oaks Ct., Liberty 64068
* Willets, Mrs. Florette A., 6115-A Pershing Ave., St. Louis 63112
m Willets, Nancy D., 6115-A Pershing Ave., St. Louis 63112
* Wilson, Mrs. Roma, 4037 Cleveland Ave., St. Louis 63110
s Wolverton, Wilma J., 8505 S. Karr Road, Grain Valley 64029

NEBRASKA

Stork, Joyce, 320 W. Eagle, Arlington 68002
Stork, Kent, 320 W. Eagle, Arlington 68002

NEVADA

Carter, Joan, 319 Apt. B N 11th, Las Vegas 89101
s Lyall, Petra, 319 Apt. B N 11th, Las Vegas 89101
s Mark, Carol J., 1823 Fairlie Court, Sparks 89431
s Schmidt, Betty L., 318 Fodrin Way, Sparks 89431
s Young, Mrs. Cheryl, 600 Akard Cir., Reno 89503

NEW HAMPSHIRE

* Baschnagel, Mrs. Wm., Trescott Rd., RR 1 Box 252, Etna 03750

NEW JERSEY

* Buschke, Mrs. Edward W., 11 Drumlin Dr., Morris Plains 07950
Fischer, Jill G., 59 River Bend Rd., Berkley Hts 07922
s Gray, Gail T., RD 2 Box 98A, Blossom Rd., Hampton 08827
Howells, Barbara E., 18 Packanack Lake Rd., Wayne 07470
* Imhof, Nancy E., 31 Adele Ct., Red Bank 07701
Jasaitis, Dale K., 1178 Huron Rd., North Brunswick 08902
s Johnson, Mrs. George, 345 Roosevelt Lane, Kenilworth 07033

Lynn, Mrs. Charlotte, 620 Remsen Ave., N. Brunswick 08902
McAfoos, Jane F., 545 Heather Lane, Brick Twp 08724
* Riemer, Mrs. Donald N., 392 Pennington-Harbourton Rd., Pennington 08534

s Rogan, Antoinette, 15 Packanack Lake Rd., Wayne 07470
s Ryan, Mrs. Helen R., 48 Utah Dr., Matawan 07747
Semen, Flora, 74 Kino Blvd., Trenton 08619
Sendic, Mrs. Rita, 2524 Berdan Ave., Fair Lawn 07410
Senna, Frank, 13 Harvard Way, Oakland 07436
Smith, Mrs. Maryrose, 3 Cynwyd Dr., Burlington 08016
s Thurman, Gary, 2028 Old York Rd., Burlington 08016
s Thurman, Mrs. Gary, 2028 Old York Rd., Burlington 08016
Vandermeer, Hilda, 36 Fogarty Dr., Trenton 08619
Winfield, Cecilia, 972A Village Dr., E. N. Brunswick 08902

NEW MEXICO

Iskra, Mrs. Charles, 4700 Sherwood NE, Albuquerque 87109
Langley, Mrs. Thelma H., 1718 Utah NE, Albuquerque 87110
Longmire, Mrs. Delmar, 8600 Summer Ave. NE, Albuquerque 87112
Nelson, Eloda, 6113 Alta Monte NE, Albuquerque 87110
Schmierer, Margaret, 5010 Crownpoint Ct. NW, Albuquerque 87120
s Smith, Kathryn L., 10508 San Gabriel Road NE, Albuquerque 87111
Staat, Mrs. Charles H., 1701 Kentucky St. NE, Albuquerque 87110
Tallant, Mrs. James N., 4305 Cobblestone NE, Albuquerque 87109
Weinshenker, Mrs. B. A., 1017 Casa Grande Pl. NE, Albuquerque 87112

NEW YORK

+m Bogin, Mrs. Sidney, 39 Boyd St., Long Beach 11561
Boos, Donna M., 4 Middlebury Rd., Hauppauge 11787
+*Bradford, Edward, 85-25 86th St., Woodhaven 11421
Buckley, Mrs. Paul, 1299 Chelsea Rd., Wantagh 11793
s Califano, Margaret A., 72 Glendale Rd., Latham 12110
m Champion, Mrs. Duane L., 8848 Van Hoesen Rd., Clay 13041
Collins, Mrs. Cynthia T., 10 E. 85th St., Apt. 5B, New York 10028
Coyle, Raymond, 86-24 77 St., Woodhaven 11421
Darah, Mrs. Grace P., 322 Sunrise Dr., Syracuse 13205
Davis, Mrs. Vicki, 1110 Niagara Falls Blvd., N. Tonawanda 14120
Denison, Eileen, 10 Brookfield Run, Queensbury 12804
m Egenites, Leila M., 28-27 214th Place, Bayside 11360
Gershon, Marianne, 231-11 57th Ave., Bayside 11364
* Ghossn, Mrs. Joseph, 87-12 Jamaica Ave., Woodhaven 11421
s Gifford, Helen, Box 137, Medusa 12120
Grigalunas, Mark, 529 W. 42nd, Apt. 2K, New York 10036
* Giugliada, Mrs. Frank, 16 Meeker St., Staten Island 10306
s Guiffre, Mrs. Marie, 19 Greenvale Dr., E. Northport 11731
s Hart, Mrs. Wilson R., 118 S. Crescent Dr., Rome 13440
Hill, Mrs. Susan, 322 Sunrise Dr., Syracuse 13205
* Hiltz, Jane, 1615 Anchor Ln., Southold 11971
s Hough, Mrs. Nancy K., 808 West End Ave., #706, New York City 10025

* Kasperski, Mrs. Paul F., 5 Hewlett Point Ave., E. Rockaway 11518
* Kasperski, Mr. Paul F., 5 Hewlett Point Ave., E. Rockaway 11518
Klein, Carolyn, 102-39 85 Road, Richmond Hill 11418
* Koester, Mrs. Marceline, 51 Bonnie Lane, Stony Brook 11790
Kroll, Paul F., Harmony Hill Farm, 4325 Two Rod Rd., E. Aurora 14052
* Lee, Mrs. Anne, 16 Tinder Lane, Levittown 11756
s Lyman, Joyce A., RD #7 Box 64A Townline Rd., Rome 13440
s Macaluso, Rosemary, 40-16 247 St., Little Neck 11363
Mason, Mrs. Esther E., 79 Grove Ave., Albany 12208
Meek, Mrs. Ruth W., 214 Goodrich Ave., Syracuse 13210
O'Sullivan, Dolores E., 246 28 Deepdale Ave., Douglaston 11362
* Oswald, Mrs. Frederick, 5 Euston Rd., Garden City 11530
O'Leary, Mary Ellen, 400 Lockport St., Youngstown 14174
s Perras, Edward M., P. O. Box 283, Mechanicville 12118
s Raymond, Dorothy, RR 1 Box 246A, Nassau 12123
Red Elk, Priscilla C., 205 Point Pleasant Rd., Rochester 14622
Robinson, Ralph, 96 Harriet St., Tonawanda 14150
Rodenhagen, Margaret, 28 Carolanne Dr., Delmar 12054
+*Rotando, Mrs. Kathryn, 131 Taft Ave., Long Beach 11561
+*Ruttmayer, Mrs. Kenneth, 2 Hampton St., Hauppauge 11787
s Schaller, Marilyn M., 7070 Oriskany Rd., Rome 13440

m Smith, Olive M., 770 James St. #211, Syracuse 13203
 +*Smith, Mr. James H., 1126 Ferry Ave., Niagara Falls 14301
 Svitak, Joseph, 85 51 169th St., Jamaica 11432
 Turnbull, Robert B., 9 Blackwell St., Cornwall-On-Hudson 12520
 Turnbull, Margaret B., 9 Blackwell St., Cornwall-On-Hudson 12520
 Vogt, Dorothy, 180 Waco St., Lindenhurst 11757
 s Wagman, Irwin, 52 Harper Dr., Pittsford 14534
 s Wagman, Fayanne B., 52 Harper Dr., Pittsford 14534
 * Weber, Mrs. Jane, 50 Belknap Dr., Northport 11768
 Wildman, James A., Jr., 133 Rosemont Dr., Syracuse 13205

NORTH CAROLINA

Bunn, Kermit, Rt. 3 Box 613 B, Snow Hill 28580
 Bunn, Lorena, Rt. 3 Box 613 B, Snow Hill 28580
 m Churchill, Mrs. Warren, Carolina Meadows, Whippoorwill Ln., Apt. 3-304, Chapel Hill 27514

s Davis, Alice P., 45 Clark Road, Franklin 28734
 s Garland, Mrs. Betty, 4821 Amity Pl., Charlotte 28212
 Harp, Eva, 7511 Middlebury Pl., Charlotte 28212
 s Jacobs, Glenda, 616 Thoreau Drive, Raleigh 27609
 s Pettypool, Ingrid, 11704 Laurel Grove Lane, Charlotte 28226

OHIO

Bartley, Betty L., 3920 Monterey Ave., Springfield 45504
 Black, Mrs. George, 8001 Cleveland N. N. Canton 44720
 * Burton, Mrs. Lewis, 4864 U.S. 68 North, Yellow Springs 45387
 Bradney, Mrs. Norman, 1104 Anderson, Piqua 45356
 Fultz, Teresa A., 819 Lori Court, Sidney 45365
 +*Garner, Mrs. M. E., 1010 Edgewood SE, No. Canton 44720
 s Gehr, Ed, 997 Lake Breeze Rd., Lorain 44054
 *Grinstead, Mrs. Carter H., 1864 Berkshire Rd., Columbus 43221
 s Harris, Betty, 438 E. Clearview, Worthington 43085
 s Hickson, Julie M., 7570 E. Sawmill Commons Lane, Dublin 43017
 Lott, Mrs. Ralph E., 523 Sturgeon Dr., Akron 44319
 *Lusk, Mrs. Elmer C., 1173 Oakland Ave., Columbus 43212
 s Martin, David W., 7371 Little Mountain Rd., Mentor 44060
 Miller, Ann, 139 Nantucket Landing, Centerville 45458
 s Morabito, Mrs. Anthony, 7057 Brightwood Dr., Painesville 44077
 Muster, Jacqueline, 247 Valeside NW, Massillon 44646
 * Neumann, Linda A., 11620 Mapleridge Dr., N. Royalton 44133
 Owens, Mrs. Linda, 1762 Stemwood Dr., Columbus 43228
 +m Savage, Mrs. James S., 39 Mead Dr., Chillicothe 45601
 s Schulz, Betty L., 1233 W. First Ave., Columbus 43212
 Shie, Pauline, 401 Bel Air Dr., Sidney 45365
 s Thomas, Anne, 5585 Andover Ave., Dayton 45449
 +m Tucker, Mrs. Leroy, 2812 N. Star Ave., Columbus 43221

OKLAHOMA

Cotten, Jeanne M., 4402 E. 105th Pl., Tulsa 74137
 s Enos, Phyllis, 11033 E. 26 Pl., Tulsa 74129
 s Gilbert, Cynthia, 3919 So. Atlanta Pl., Tulsa 74105
 +*Howlett, Mrs. E. A., 4916 E. 38th Pl., Tulsa 74135
 s Klimek, Mary Nell, Rt. 1 Box 51-B, Devol 73531
 McCawley, Edna R., 1721 S. Fulton, Tulsa 74112
 s McGaha, Linda Jo, Box 273, Disney 74340
 Sutton, Mrs. Pat, 1707 S. 77 E Ave., Tulsa 74112
 Young, Jimmy L., Oakland Dr., McAlester 74501

PENNSYLVANIA

s Allen, Marion, 15 Hollyhock Ln., Levittown 19055
 s Allen, Lee, 15 Hollyhock Ln., Levittown 19055
 Branson, Enid, 2026 Pleasant Ave., Glenside 19038
 * Callahan, Mrs. Betty, 6 Pennsylvania Ave., Fairless Hills 19030
 Cass, Margaret, 920 Andorra Rd., Lafayette Hill 19444
 Cooper, Frances M., 492 Pinecrest Rd., Springfield 19064
 Easter, Mrs. Alice, 368 E. Gorgas Ln., Philadelphia 19119
 Girvin, Mrs. John M., 1109 Putnam Blvd., Wallingford 19086
 Girvin, Mr. John M., 1109 Putnam Blvd., Wallingford 19086
 Hanna, Susan, 472 Store Rd., Harleysville 19438
 Hansberger, Betsy, 8006 Cheltenham Ave., Philadelphia 19118
 +m Hansen, Mrs. H. N., 708 Wyndale Rd., Jenkintown 19046
 s James, Daryl, 1595 Oakleaf Lane, Pittsburgh 15237
 Jones, Mrs. Richard I., 909 Louise Ln., W. Chester 19382
 +*Lyons, Mr. William R., 38 Indian Creek Dr., Levittown 19057
 * Lyons, Mrs. William R., 38 Indian Creek Dr., Levittown 19057

McMullen, Joyce, 478 Valley View Dr., Langhorne 19047
 s Parsons, Mrs. Bonnie, 6352 Crescent Ave., Bensalem 19020
 Rolph, Mrs. Helen P., 7207 Cresheim Rd., Philadelphia 19119
 s Roth, Mrs. Elizabeth, 105 Carleton Rd., Wallingford 19086
 * Shannon, Mrs. Thomas, Jr., 8845 Norwood Ave., Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia 19118
 Shaw, Mrs. Carolyn, 1963 Virginia Ave., Bensalem 19020
 Smith, Judith, 7808 Conwell Rd., Laverock 19118
 Stahl, Julia L., 86 S. Hershey Rd., Harrisburg 17112
 +m Tinari, Mrs. Anne, 2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley 19006

RHODE ISLAND

s Miga, Cynthia A., 154 Fairweather Ave., Cranston 02910
 s Reimels, Cheryl A., 754 Lafayette Rd., Tiverton 02878

SOUTH CAROLINA

* Anderson, Mrs. Faith R., 201 Morrison Dr., Goose Creek 29445
 Black, Mrs. P. R., 5318 Harford Cir., N. Charleston 29406
 +*Fields, Lucile B., 5816 Beverly Dr., Hanahan 29405
 * McDaniel, Helen B., 4751 Spruce St., N. Charleston 29406
 * Mims, Sandra P., 1100 Palm Blvd., Isle of Palms 29451
 Olson, Angela, 1805 W. Martintown Rd., N. Augusta 29841
 * Short, Mrs. Vere, 100 Dorsetshire Downs, Summerville 29483
 Wright, Mrs. C. W., Jr., 460 Royal Oak Dr., Spartanburg 29302
 Young, Mrs. Martha A., 660 Stafford Ave., Windsor Forest, Spartanburg 29302

TENNESSEE

s Adamson, Peggy, 5198 Yellowwood Rd., Memphis 38134
 Ellis, Judy, 6110 Barrentine, Bartlett 38134
 Garrett, Carol, 4851 Brentdale, Memphis 38118
 s Gaskin, Barbara J., 190 First Ave., Memphis 38109
 Ilardi, Mrs. Robert, 2786 North Star Dr., Bartlett 38134
 Littlejohn, Mrs. Ruby, 3428 Dupre, Memphis 38115
 * Pair, Mrs. Iona, 3578 Country Lane Cove, Memphis 38133
 Shirley, Mrs. Ann, 7150 Cedar Rd., Bartlett 38135
 * Stauffer, Helen, 2973 Falkirk Rd., Memphis 38128
 Steele, Katherine, 1736 Cornelia Ln., Memphis 38117
 York, Cecilia H., 3647 Rhodes Av No. 2, Memphis 38111

TEXAS

Acree, Mrs. Irvin W., 3235 Lockmoor Ln., Dallas 75220
 Adams, Mrs. Martin L., 9212 Lindaro Ln., Dallas 75228
 s Alonso, Kristine, 8208 Cliffage, Austin 78759
 s Altenburg, Suzanne Patricia, 5800 Lost Forest Drive, Houston 77092
 Baca, Edith D., 901 McKee Dr., Edinburg 78539
 Bagley, Marsha A., 5918 N. Meadow Ct., Pasadena 77505
 Bang, Janet, 2138 Parakeet, Houston 77034
 s Barb, Lt. Col. Susan J. F., P. O. Box 733, Randolph AFB 78148
 s Baron, Peg, 1408 N. Locust, Denton 76201
 * Barta, Mary Alice, 2209 Travis, Plano 75075
 Becerra, Hector, Jr., 212 Briarcliff Dr., San Antonio 78213
 Bircher, Kay Wetzel, 1334 Meadowlane, Corpus Christi 78412
 s Bradberry, Melba, 1406 Burke, Pasadena 77502
 s Bruhl, Jeannine, 8406 Alta Verde, Austin 78759
 Burger, Mrs. Joanne C., 3817 Sunnydale Dr., Ft. Worth 76116
 * Burr, Laura, 17411 Rustington, Spring 77379
 s Carpenter, Janice, 1321 Whitehall Dr., Plano 75023
 s Carter, Judith M., 19506 Mill Meadow Lane, Houston 77094
 s Cecil, Barbara A., 103 Tower Dr., Round Rock 78664
 s Champagne, Patricia, 22214 Meadowrock Dr., Spring 77389
 Chatelain, Mrs. J. R., 2011 Grant St., Nederland 77627
 * Chilcutt, Mrs. L. W., 1100 Cleckler, Ft. Worth 76111
 s Clark, Anita D., 309 Lakeway Dr., Benbrook 76126
 * Click, Elaine, 10251 Helmsdale, Houston 77043
 s Clive, Margery L., 2351 Ballycastle Dr., Dallas 75228
 Coleman, Kyle, 4308 Springbranch, Ft. Worth 76116
 * Corley, Mrs. Dillon Q., 5804 Trail Lake Dr., Ft. Worth 76133
 * Corrigan, Mrs. John, 106 Trailbridge, Richardson 75081
 s Craddock, Lavone, 817 Westway, Denton 76201
 Crawford, Mrs. M. K., 735 Oban Dr., San Antonio 78216
 Crouch, Mrs. Oran, 2012 Locksley Lane, Denton 76201
 Curry, Mrs. John F., 617 Mimosa Dr., Denton 76201
 Curtis, Elizabeth, P. O. Box 55, Schertz 78154

Curtis, James, P. O. Box 55, Schertz 78154
 s Davidson, Janice, Rt. 1 Box 252, Kempner 76539
 Davis, Grace, 3418 Urban, Garland 75041
 DeLoach, Mrs. Harold, 3800 W. Waco Dr., Waco 76710
 Dennison, Una Mae, 8919 Wateka, Houston 77074
 * Dixon, Mrs. Billie, 508 Christi Ln., Coppell 75019
 Dougherty, Mrs. Alto Wayne, 303 E. Pecan St., Kirbyville 75956
 Early, Mrs. Robert D., 5916 Walla, Ft. Worth 76133
 Ferguson, Mrs. Rodney, 7517 Overhill Rd., Ft. Worth 76116
 * Forcht, Mrs. Brennan A., 833 McKinney Ave., Arlington 76012
 s Fort, Mural, 3921 Honey Ln., Ft. Worth 76180
 * Foster, Mrs. Bill, 3610 Gray Dr., Mesquite 75150
 +Foster, Mr. Bill, 3610 Gray Dr., Mesquite 75150
 Froboese, Ken, 32005 I.H. 10 West, Boerne 78006
 Garlick, Maxine S., Rt. 2 Box 761, Copperas Cove 76522
 Garner, Mrs. Harry G., 304 Buckeye Tr., Austin 78746
 Geeslin, Wayne, 1202 Seagler Rd. #196, Houston 77042
 Gibbs, Mrs. Newman, 608 Larue, San Marcos 78666
 Goeke, Mrs. Ruth, Rt. 1 Box 73, Brenham 77833
 Goins, Gerri, 11030 Silkwood Dr., Houston 77031
 * Golla, Billie, 624 Fair Lane, New Braunfels 78130
 Gonzales, John, 1744 Jenkins Road #700, Pasadena 77506
 s Gregg, Kay J., 1015 Rayburn Dr., San Antonio 78221
 s Gregory, Douglas A., 212 Briarcliff, San Antonio 78213
 s Hall, Marilyn P., 5905 Imogene, Houston 77074
 s Hall, Roy, 5905 Imogene, Houston 77075
 +Hall, Meredith M., 922 E. 14th, Houston 77009
 Herres, Leona, Rt. 1 Box 100A, Taylor 76574
 * Hudnall, Mrs. Gladys, 8524 Burnet Rd., Apt. 1203, Austin 78758
 * Hummer, Mrs. Robert L., 10606 Sunflower Lane, San Antonio 78213
 Jackson, Mrs. Edward A., 7305 LeDoux, Ft. Worth 76134
 * Janson, Mary, 3920 Savannah, Garland 75041
 +Jeffrey, Mrs. Dwight W., 1918 Williamsburg Row, Denton 76201
 Johnson, Mamie, 5805 Old Crowley Rd., Ft. Worth 76134
 s Johnson, Mrs. Wm. H., 610 Mauze, San Antonio 78216
 s Johnson, Mr. William H., 610 Mauze, San Antonio 78216
 s King, Gayle S., Rt. 3 Box 112, Killeen 76541
 s Kocurek, Jeanette, 824 Wildwood, Corpus Christi 78410
 s Lang, Karen, 5115 Grape, Houston 77096
 Lankford, Mary E., 2723 Healey Dr., Dallas 75228
 Lewis, Mrs. Velma, 6309 Firth Rd., Ft. Worth 76116
 Linson, Virginia, 326 Drexel Dr., Grapevine 76051
 Lively, Mrs. William M., Jr., 1546 Sylvan, Dallas 75208
 s Martin, Jayne, 4228 Sante Fe, Corpus Christi 78411
 s McChristy, Beckey D., 6308 Melinda Dr., Watauga 76148
 s McCleary, Lt. Col. George C., 5635 Woodwalk, San Antonio 78233
 s McElhannon, Bonnie, 5428 Oak Trail, Dallas 75232
 McEwen, Onalee H., 18103 Barbuda Ln., Houston 77058
 Moskal, Ellen M., 6619 Eastwood, Houston 77021
 Moss, Mrs. Leslie B., Jr., 611 Briarpark Dr., Houston 77042
 s Moten, Neva, P.O. Box 981, Copperas Cove 76522
 Nabers, John P., 714 El Toro Lane, Houston 77062
 Neff, Mrs. Mary K., 630 Chamberlin Dr., Beaumont 77707
 Nicholas, Anne M., 6007 Patrick Henry, San Antonio 78233
 Nicholas, Richard A., 6007 Patrick Henry, San Antonio 78233
 +Nichols, Mrs. Donald L., 2707 Ripplesprings Ct., Arlington 76016
 Nolan, Mrs. James R., 1206 Prairie Lea, Brenham 77833
 * Padgett, Mrs. T. W., 2005 Mill Creek Rd., Arlington 76010
 Pinion, Becky, 303 W. Saunders, League City 77573
 * Pittman, Hortense, 12406 Alexandria, San Antonio 78233
 * Pittman, Sundown, 12406 Alexandria, San Antonio 78233
 +Ramser, Mrs. Charles, 2413 Martin, Wichita Falls 76308
 s Reddell, Janey E., 2408 Cedar Lane, Schertz 78154
 * Rexilius, Mrs. Larry, 5634 Yarwell, Houston 77096
 * Rhodes, Mrs. M. W., P. O. Box 57, Manchaca 78652
 Rogers, Jo Anne, P. O. Box 653, Copperas Cove 76522
 s Rose, Mary Ann, 4615 Hawkhaven Lane, Austin 78727
 Sanders, Sandy, 1034 Rayburn Dr., San Antonio 78221
 Sanders, Shirley L., 1034 Rayburn Dr., San Antonio 78221
 s Schrimsher, Jo Anne, 402 Dundee, Victoria 77904
 s Schrimsher, Jana, 402 Dundee, Victoria 77904
 s Scott, Iris, 11840 Rimrock Trail, Austin 78737
 s South, Mrs. Pat, 4301 Logan's Lane, Ft. Worth 76135
 * Stallings, Mrs. W. B., 3709 Glenmont Dr., Ft. Worth 76133
 Steele, Iva B., 1216 Austin Ave., Brownwood 76801

s Stensland, Mrs. A. M., Jr., 468 Glenmore, Corpus Christi 78412
 Stevens, Nancee A., 2421 27th St., Nederland 77627
 Stiefel, Mrs. Ann, P. O. Box 567, LaPorte 77571
 s Strackbein, Tracy, 4620 Cripple Creek, Ft. Worth 76137
 Taggart, Mrs. Byron E., 326 Barbara Dr., San Antonio 78216
 Thomas, Carol, 9813 Deer Trail Dr., Houston 77038
 s Tompkins, Kathleen, 9712 Faircrest, Dallas 75238
 Tracy, Betty, 6103 Royal Point Dr., San Antonio 78239
 * Turner, Mrs. Byron, P. O. Box 29727, Dallas 75229
 Urquhart, Charles, Rt. 6, Box 6203, Brenham 77833
 * Walbrick, Mrs. J. M., 5235 Kingston Dr., Wichita Falls 76310
 s Weber, Mrs. Mary, 7453 Willis Ave., Fort Worth 76116
 Welch, Lynda, 9505 Wildwood Ridge, San Antonio 78250
 * Wheeler, Ruth, P. O. Box 225829, Dallas 75222
 * Wiesner, Mrs. Alice, 533 Olmos Dr. E, San Antonio 78212
 * Wilson, Dottie, 3900 Carter Creek Pkwy., Bryan 77802
 s Wilson, Barbara, 6112 Killarmet, Corpus Christi 78413
 * Wright, Mrs. Floyd, 2106 Woodland Park Dr., Houston 77077
 +Young, Mrs. Frances, 6109 Shadow Mountain Dr., Austin 78731

UTAH

s Abe, Clifford, 1570 S 1100 East, Salt Lake City 84105
 s Crandall, Edythe E., 886 Kensington Ave., Salt Lake City 84105
 s Jacobson, Elizabeth R., 861 East 500 South, Bountiful 84010
 * Jones, Mrs. John H., 1786 Millcreek Way, Salt Lake City 84106
 Lloyd, Mrs. Ruthann, 2169 Vimont Ave., Salt Lake City 84109
 s Rasmussen, Marjorie M., 3261 S 1800 West, Salt Lake City 84119
 Schultz, Mary H., 1122 E 6th N, Bountiful 84010

VIRGINIA

+m Boland, Mrs. Mary A., 6415 Wilcox Ct., Alexandria 22310
 s Coley, A. Wayne, P. O. Box 8568, Richmond 23226
 s Cox, Mrs. B. M., 451 Hawthorne Dr., Darville 24541
 * Fields, Grace O., Rt. 3 Box 1135, Trevilians 23093
 * Giangerelli, Mary Ann, 2710 Viking Dr., Herndon 22070
 Greenawalt, Mrs. Barbara, 10302 Attems Way, Glen Allen 23060
 s Gross, Marianne D., 3115 River Edge Dr., Portsmouth 23703
 s Grundy, Mrs. Alice D., 3018 Hungary Spring Rd., Richmond 23228
 s Janke, Sheryl J., 5159-C Overland Drive, Roanoke 24014
 +Jones, Laurene, 3430 Luttrell Rd., Annandale 22003
 Long, Ms. Sharon A., 1546 Heritage Hill Dr., Richmond 23233
 +m McKneely, Mrs. Thomas B., 9229 Arlington Blvd., #517, Fairfax 22201
 * Nuyianes, Opal L., 12808 Thompson Rd., Fairfax 22033
 s Peterson, Barbara, 4120 Croatan Rd., Richmond 23235
 Promersberger, Mrs. Beverly, 8530 Pappas Way, Annandale 22003
 +m Skelton, Mrs. Stanley E., 3910 Larchwood Rd., Falls Church 22041

s Turley, Mr. David E., P. O. Box 8417, Fredericksburg 22401
 Van, Mrs. Richard R., 300 Britain Lane, Hampton 23669
 * Wilson, John E., 10007 Bent Tree Lane, Manassas 22111

WISCONSIN

+Achauer, Jeannine, 1296 N. Whitefish Lake Lane, Minocqua 54548
 s Arner, Sylvia M., 2420 E. Ridge Rd., Beloit 53511
 Barry, Nancy, 2533 Memorial Dr., Green Bay 54303
 s Degner, Kevin W., 1741 Iowa St., Oshkosh 54901
 Eberle, Mrs. Henry, N 93 W 17229 Devonwood Rd., Menomonee Falls 53051
 Fossum, Mrs. Dorothy, 3177 N. 95th St., Milwaukee 53222
 Geisler, Mrs. Arthur W., 1516 E. Olive St., Shorewood 53211
 s Kretzmann, Michele, 4291 Fond Du Lac Rd., Oshkosh 54901
 s Kutzleb, Janice, W6090 County P, Monroe 53566
 Maas, Mrs. Robert L., 9727 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee 53227
 +Mengs, Ruth E., 5616 W. Caird Ln., Mequon 53092
 +Merrell, Mrs. Irene, W 283 Hillendale Dr., Oconomowoc 53066
 Plummer, Sarah, 2452 Longtail Beach Ln., Suamico 54173
 Shepherdson, Jeannette, 811 Daffodil Lane, Beloit 53511
 Shepherdson, R. E., 811 Daffodil Lane, Beloit 53511
 s Sromek, Deborah, 7830 W. Tesch Ave., Milwaukee 53220
 Torbeck, Terri N., 1324 E. Kensington, Shorewood 53211
 s Vercauteren, Mrs. Peter, 1035 Meadow View Ln., Depere 54115
 Wall, Mrs. William A., 4742 Lafayette Dr., Madison 53705
 * Wilkening, Karter G., 2705 S. 45th St., Milwaukee 53219
 Wilson, Joan K., 13830 Watertown Plank Rd., Elm Grove 53122
 s Wojtech, Tom, 3908 N. 84th St., Milwaukee 53222

1990 AVSA Affiliates

This list includes all AVSA Affiliated Chapters and their presidents as of July 15, 1990. The asterisk (*) denotes 100% AVSA members.

(Editor's Note: This is the current list of Affiliates in the AVSA office. If there are any changes, additions or deletions, please contact Nancy Lawrence, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704.)

INTERNATIONAL

AUSTRALIA

- AFRICAN VIOLET ASSOCIATION**, Mrs. Joy Shaw, 81 Farnell Ave., Carlingford, New South Wells 2118
AV-GESNERIAD SOCIETY OF NSW, Sue Hodges, 117 Joseph Banks Dr., Kings Langley, NSW 2147
AVGS OF CANBERRA, INC., Helen McMaster, Griffin Centre, Bunda St., Canberra City, ACT 2601
AVS OF QUEENSLAND, Joan Youngberry, 14 Robyn St., Chapel Hill 4069, Queensland
AVS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, Michael Lennon, P. O. Box 261, Parkholme SA 5043
AVS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, Mrs. Norma Dougall, 76 Elizabeth St., E. Cannington, WA 6017
MRS. MARIE BAILE, 10 The Trongate, Killingworth, N.S.W. 2301
CI-CENTRAL COAST AVC, Ronald J. Hill, 6 Sabrina Ave., Bateau Bay N.S.W. 2261
EARLY MORN AV GROUP, Mrs. Leonie Chargwin, 8 Pau St., Noble Park, Victoria 3174
HUNTER VALLEY AVS, Mrs. Betty Ikin, P. O. Box 109, Cardiff, N.S.W. 2285
WOLLONGONG AV GROUP, J. Cartew, 4 Lorking St., Bellambi, NSW 2518

BAHAMAS

- BAHAMAS AVS**, Mrs. Sybil Strachan, P. O. Box G.T. 2048, Nassau

BERMUDA

- * **BERMUDA AVS**, Rosalie Harvey, Marlborough Gardens, 166 Middle Rd., Southampton SN02
SOMERS ISLES AVC, Morag S. Smith, P. O. Box 1, Devonshire OVBX

CANADA

- ANNAPOLIS VALLEY AVS**, Mrs. Jean L. Stanford, Box 683, 68 Connaught Ave., Middletown, NS B0S 1P0
ASSOC DES AMATEURS VIOLETTES AFR, Normand Miron, 7064 Ave. Marie Gerin-Lajoie, Ville Anjou-Que H1J 2R9
AVS OF CALGARY, Evelyn Salamanowicz, c/o 324 Cantrell Dr., S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2W 2C6
AVS OF GREATER MONTREAL, Greta Durand, 21 Lakeshore Rd., Apt. 317, Pointe Claire, Quebec H9S 5N3
* **AVSA JUDGES COUNCIL OF ONTARIO**, Mrs. Elizabeth Tappling, 1512-511 The West Mall, Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 1G5
CAREFREE GESNERIAD SOCIETY, Mrs. Bonnie Young, 2235 Robinson Street, Regina, Sask S4T 2L5
CHARLOTTETOWN AVS, Mrs. Hilda Lewis, 202 Spring Park Rd., Charlottetown, PEI, C1A 3Y9
CHINOOK AVC, John Insley, 1216-24 Ave., Coaldale, Alberta T0K 0L0
DELBROOK AVS, Mrs. Colleen Henderson, 5855 Falcon Rd., W. Vancouver, BC V7W 1W5
EDMONTON AVS, Ms. Lil Bowes, 17321-60 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6M 1E9
FIRST HALIFAX AVS, Mrs. Mary Sue Goulding, 1096 Ridgewood Dr., Halifax, NS B3H 3Y4
FUNDY VIOLET CLUB, Ms. Susan Brooks, 260 Douglas Avenue, Saint John, NB E2K 1E6
HERITAGE AVS, Mrs. Peggy Petrie, Suite 87 St. James Place, 673 Upper James St., Ontario L9C 5R9
LAKESHORE AVS, Mrs. Eleanor Elston, 4 Superior Ave. #18, Toronto, Ontario M8V 2M4
MONCTONIAN AVS, Janice MacNeil, 13 Montclair Ave., Moncton, NB E1C 1T7
NUTANA VIOLETS, Beatrice A. Smith, 210 Cumberland Ave. N,

Saskatoon, Sask S7N 1M4

OAKVILLE AVS, Mrs. Pat Dunn, Treas., 1183 Wynchgate St., Oakville L6L 2L5

OTTAWA AVS, R. McCabe, 769 Holt Crescent, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 2Y5

ROYAL SAINT PAULIA CLUB, Mrs. Susan MacNichol, Sussex Corner, NB E0E 1R0

STAMPEDE CITY AVS, Mrs. Joan Farraway, B-112-4221 Sarcee Road SW, Calgary, Alberta T3E 6V9

THE AVS OF CENTRAL ALBERTA, Isabel Valli, Box 1070 RR #1 Sylvan Lake, Alberta T0M 1Z0

THE VANCOUVER AVC, Miss Arleen Dewell, 311-2366 Wall St., Vancouver, BC V5L 4Y1

TORONTO AVS, Mrs. Jean Hamilton, 130 Wishing Well Dr., Agincourt, Ontario M1T 1J7

TOTEM AVS OF VANCOUVER, Mrs. H. M. Sale, 455 E. 17th Ave., Vancouver, BC V5V 1B2

WEST ISLAND AVS, Charles E. Laws, 4331 Juneau St., Pierrefonds, Quebec H9H 2C8

WINNIPEG AVS, Amanda Botincan, Box 184 Tyndall, Manitoba, R0E 3B0

YORK AVS, Pat Stuart, 328 Dundonald St., Fredericton, NB E3B 1X3

ENGLAND

THE SAINTPAULIA AND HOUSEPLANT SOCIETY, Mrs. F. B. F. Dunningham, Treas., 33 Church Rd., Newbury Park, Ilford, Essex IG2 7ET

HONG KONG

AVS OF HONG KONG LTD., Mr. Leung Tai Hung, P.O. Box 99075 (T.S.T.), Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon

JAPAN

ALL JAPAN SAINTPAULIA CLUB, Mr. Osamu Tokugawa, 2-27-6 Jingumae, Kamon Bldg., Shibuya-Ku, Tokyo 150

JAPAN INTERNATIONAL SAINTPAULIA SOCIETY, Mrs. Toshi Kawakami, B-604 Tsutsujigaoka-Haim, 2-13-3 Shibusaki Chofu-Shi, Tokyo

MEXICO

* **PRIMER CLUB DE VIOLETAS**, Nidia de Escalante, Francia 3055 Col. Del Carmen, Monterrey NL 64710

SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE AVS, Alex Duncan, 14 Marion Ave., Southfield, 7800 Cape Town

NATAL AVS, Mrs. S. V. Harrison, Chairman, P. O. Box 124, Cato Ridge 3680

SOUTHERN AVS, Lukas M. Otto, P.O. Box 309, Muldersdrift, 1747

TRANSVAAL AVS, Joan Halford, Union Farm, Box 760, Pyramid

SOUTH AMERICA

SOCIED PERUANA DE VIOLETAS AFRICANAS, Nelly Arenas Av Velasco Astete 109, Casilla 1413, Lima 18 Peru

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DIXIE AVS, J. R. Pittman, 12406 Alexandria Street, San Antonio, TX 78233

ALABAMA

* **ALABAMA AV JUDGES COUNCIL**, Vince Vincent, 212 Sylvan Drive, Enterprise 36330

BAMA BELLES & BEAUX AVS, Mrs. Edna Ward, 1319 Clearmont Circle, Opelika 36801

* **CAPITAL CITY AVS OF MONTGOMERY**, Mrs. Myrt Sisler, 2833 Ashley Ave., Montgomery 36109

COVINGTON AVS, Grace Brogden, 1401 Daniel St., Andalusia 36420

* **EARLY BIRD VIOLET CLUB**, Michael Jackson, 1220 14th St. N., Bessemer 35020

HEART OF DIXIE AVS, Mrs. Ruth Buie, Rt. 4 Box 115, Dothan 36303

HUNTSVILLE AVS, Carrie Armbrester, 247 Millstream Dr., Huntsville 35806
MAGIC CITY AVS, Kay Rice, Rt. 2 Box 275, Leeds 35094
***MONTGOMERY AVS**, Gay Harrison, RR 2 Box 435, Montgomery 36108
***T H E AVS**, Jerri Whitlock, 1509 Glenwood Street, Birmingham 35215

ALASKA

***AURORA BOREALIS AVS**, Roy Roberts, P. O. Box 190247, Anchorage 99519
***LAST FRONTIER AVS**, Lucy Moody, P.O. Box 670370, Chugiak 99567

ARIZONA

ARIZONA STATE AV COUNCIL, Sylvia Sagert, 5503 N. Calle Del Santo, Phoenix 85018
***DESERT SUN AVS**, Ann Stoetzer, 2114 W. Luke, Phoenix 85015
***SUNSET AVS**, Karen Broadway, 4426 W. Calavar, Glendale 85306
TEMPE AV CULTURE CLUB, Ruth Townsend, 111 N. Heritage Lane, Payson 85541
TUCSON AVS, Arlene H. Siegel, 3649 N. Amethyst Ln., Tucson 85749
WHITE MOUNTAIN AVS, Mrs. Sharon Burmeister, HC 31 Box 132, Show Low 85901

ARKANSAS

BLUFF CITY AVC, Mary Loewer, 18 Galway, Wynne 72396
CENTRAL ARKANSAS AVS, Dr. Ben Saltzman, 224 North Palm, Little Rock 72205
***GREEN THUMB AVC**, Mrs. Bob Williams, 1618 East Fifth, Fayetteville 72701
VOLUNTEER STATE AV COUNCIL, Mary Loewer, 18 Galway St., Wynne 72396

CALIFORNIA

ALUM ROCK AVS, Mary Isabel Dale, 1350 Oakland RD#1, San Jose 95112
***AV COUNCIL OF SO. CALIF**, Marcia Shaver, 1187 Buckingham Dr., Thousand Oaks 91360
AV HOBBYISTS OF SACRAMENTO, Wendy Allgeier, 1060 Cavanaugh Way, Sacramento 95822
***AV JUDGES COUNCIL OF NO. CALIF**, Gary R. Beck, 1155 Pine Street #4, San Francisco 94109
AVS OF MONTEREY PENINSULA, Benjamin Rees, 1035 Bioncho Rd., Pebble Beach 93953
AVS OF MONTROSE, Adelaide Kory, 6721 Amberwood Dr., Alta Loma 91701
AVS OF SAN FRANCISCO, Don Thornburg, 266 Lenox Ave., #406, Oakland 94610
***AVS OF SOUTH BAY**, Irene Thomas, 1199 Lyons Ave., Ridgewood City 94061
AVS OF THE EAST BAY, Don Thornburg, 266 Lenox #406, Oakland 94610
***AVS JUDGES COUNCIL OF SO. CALIF**, Carroll Gealy, 1924 Elmsbury Road, Westlake Village 91361
BAJA OREGON BLOOMERS, Kathleen Starr, 1300 S. Hwy. 3, Etna 96027
BAKERSFIELD AVS, Nancy Johnston, 2719 California Ave., Bakersfield 93304
BALBOA PARK AVS, Melba Batchelor, 756 Monserate Avenue, Chula Vista 92010
CAPITAL CITY AVS, Oscar Faoro, 7361 22nd St., Sacramento 95822
CENTRAL CALIF. AVS, Mrs. Karen Willoughby, 2513 16th Ave., Kingsbury 93631
CHULA VISTA AVS, Mrs. Carole Scelsi, 521 Orange Ave. #139, Chula Vista 92011
DELTA GESNERIAD AND AVS, Jean Stokes, 7318 Sahara Court, Sacramento 95828
DIABLO VALLEY AV CROWERS, Mrs. Kathy Willoughby, 1717 Baywood Dr., Concord 94521
FANCY BLOOMERS, Hallie Bottemiller, 670 Swain Woods Terr., Sebastopol 95472
FOOTHILL AVS, Gini McCanne, 1420 Oxford Ave., Claremont 91711
GRANADA HILLS AVS, Mrs. Bernadine Poulsen, 7918 Teesdale

Ave., Northridge 91605
GROW & STUDY GESNERIAD CLUB, Al Striepens, 2225 Deep Grove Ave., Rowland Hts 91748
HEARTLAND AVS, Dixie L. Puckett, 697 Ellen Lane, El Cajon 92019
HUMBOLDT COUNTY AVS, Kristie Wilson, 2054 Rohnerville Rd., Fortuna 95540
LOS ANGELES AVS, Mrs. Marion Pinkston, 5216 Marburn Ave., Los Angeles 90043
***NITE BLOOMERS AVC**, Cathy Cornibe, 197 Archer Dr., Santa Cruz 95060
***NO. CALIF. COUNCIL OF AVS**, Gary Beck, 1155 Pine St. #4, San Francisco 94109
ORANGE COUNTY AVS, Leonard Re, 9144 Helm Ave., Fountain Valley 92708
POMONA VALLEY AVS, Hilda Douglas, 2201 Los Flores St., Pomona 91767
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY AVS, Olive Pratt, 11604 Cielo Lane, Loma Linda 92354
SAN DIEGO DAYTIME AVS, Betty Roberson, 3612 Laredo Dr., Carlsbad 92008
SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AVS, Miss Louise Ozaki, 8019 Quartz Ave., Canoga Park 91306
SAN JOAQUIN AVS, Mrs. Susan Bastianelli, 9840 Oakwilde, Stockton 95212
***SAN MATEO COUNTY AVS**, Heather Morgan, 1670 Ascension Dr., San Mateo 94402
SERRA VIOLET LOVERS, Nadine Wade, 475 W. Runa Rancho Court, Porterville 93257
SOUTH COAST AVS, Marianne Treadway, 11502 E. 212nd Street, Lakewood 90715
SOUTHERN AVS, Mrs. Florence Takeda, 1475 Mardan Dr., San Jose 95132
SUBURBAN AVFRIENDS, Jane Clay, 968 Marquette Lane, Foster City 94404
THE GLENDALE AVS, Ms. Margaret Ayneline, 630 1/2 East Maple, Glendale 91205
THOUSAND OAKS AVS, Darlene Lowery, 2233 Windbrook Ct., Westlake 91361
TOWN AND COUNTRY AVS, Aneita Richardson, 37038 Alder Dr., Mt. Home Village, Mentone 92359
TUSTANA AVS, Honey Geck, 8381 Daren Circle, Huntington Beach 92646
VENTURA COUNTY AVS, Charles Alvarez, 740 E. Virginia Terrace, Santa Paula 93060
YOLO VIOLETEERS, Dana Drennan, 806 E. 11th St., Davis 95616

COLORADO

CAPITAL CITY AVS, Mrs. Catherine Balliu, 10927 W. 103rd Cir., Westminster 80020
CLOXINIA GESNERIAD GROWERS, Dale Munger, 7105 S. Gaylord #28, Littleton 80122
HAPPINESS IS AVS, Marlys Yutesler, 405 Indiana, P. O. Box 446, Berthoud 80513
***HI COUNTRY JUDGES WORKSHOP**, Frances Ratte, P. O. Box 382, Black Hawk 80422
***HI HOPES STUDY CLUB**, Mrs. Mae Ellen Rogers, 5737 E. Floyd Ave., Denver 80222
LOVELAND SWEETHEART VIOLETTES, Doris Eckholt, 617 W. 9th, Loveland 80537
PIKES PEAK AVS, Helen Wand, 2909 Palmer Park Blvd., Colorado Springs 80909
PUEBLO AV CLUB, Mrs. Eilene Even, 825 W. Routt Ave., Pueblo 81004
ROCKY MOUNTAIN AV COUNCIL, Deborah Griffith, 1557 S. Sheridan Blvd., Lakewood 80226
***ROCKY POTTERS**, Robert Hull, 930 E. 10th Ave., Broomfield 80020
THE AVS OF DENVER CHAPTER I, Ms. Madeline Slavin-Polevoy, 1900 E. Girard Place #302, Englewood 80110
ULTRA VIOLET CLUB, Geneva Holmes, 8810 Hooker Way, Westminster 80030
ZEST OF THE WEST AVS, Ellie Dvorak, 2506 Bradbury Ct., Ft. Collins 80521

CONNECTICUT

CENTRAL CONN. AVS, William Von Achen, 22 Fern Street, Rocky Hill 06067
*NAUGATONIC AVS, Edna Rourke, 99 Old Stratford Rd., Shelton 06484
NUTMEG STATE AVS, Richard C. Bower, 239 Fort Path Road, Madison 06443
SILVERMINE AVS, Trudi Christensen, 221 Shrub Oak Lane, Fairfield 06430
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*WINDSOR AVS, Mrs. Marcia Kilpatrick, 16 Meadow Road, Bolton 06040

DELAWARE

DELAWARE AVS, Mrs. Betty Gregg, 2817 Grubb Rd., Wilmington 19810

FLORIDA

*AFRICAN VIOLET ASSOC. OF GARDENERS, Alyce Droege, 1318 Kewanee Tr., Maitland 32751
*AV COUNCIL OF FLORIDA, Mary Lou Harden, 910 W. Hillsboro, Selfner 33584
AVS OF FT. WALTON BEACH, Marcella Wright, 1009 Juniper Ave., Niceville 32578
AVS OF JACKSONVILLE, Mrs. Dorothy Malone, 8051 Tara Lane, Jacksonville 32216
*AVS OF PENSACOLA, Ms. Lyn Deane-Harris, 4965 Castayls, Pensacola 32504
*CENTRAL FLORIDA AVS, Mrs. Evelyn Briggs, 448 Autumn Oaks Drive, Lake Mary 32789
DIXIE MOONBEAM AVS, Mrs. Lee Peterson, 1415 Ridgewood Ave., Panama City 32404
*EDISON AVC, Pauline Coblenz, 300 Broadview Dr., Ft. Meyers 33905
FIRST LAKELAND AVS, Claudette Brown, 3306 Ida Lane, Lakeland 33801
GULF AVC, Lillian Scott, 1917 SE 32nd St., Cape Coral 33904
GULF COAST AVS, Mrs. Dorothy E. Beckstrom, 1250 US 19 South, Box 13, Tarpon Springs 34689
LAKES & HILLS AVS, Mrs. Edith Pigot, 5 Oak Circle, Mt. Dora 32757
MID-POLK AVS, Vena Griffith, 1978 Thelma Dr., NW, Winter Haven 33881
MIRACLE STRIP AVS, Edward Woody, 3911 Napoli Rd., Panama City 32405
SARASOTA AVS, Deborah Conley, 2824 Wilkinson Road, Sarasota 32431
SUMMER LACE AVS, Francene Mattucci, 1981 Charlais St., Tallahassee 32301
*SUNCOAST AVS, Sandra Williams, 102 9th St. E., Tierra Verde 33715
TAMPA AVS, Margaret Ritchie, 408 E. Flora, Tampa 33604
THE NITE BLOOMERS AVS, Mrs. Maxine Cherry, 219 Brookview Drive North, Jacksonville 32225
THE VIOLET PATCH, Linda M. Marshall, 5153 NW 30th Ct., Margate 33063
TREASURE COAST AVS, Gloria Rooks, 6390 Gardena Street, Fort Pierce 34982
UPPER PINELLAS AVS, Leonard Waller, 3545 Rolando Dr., Palm Harbor 34683
WALTON AVS, Mrs. Frances Statz, 203 E. Nelson Ave., DeFuniak Springs 32433

GEORGIA

AVC OF GREATER ATLANTA, William Barnette, 1794 Angelique Dr., Decatur 30033
CLASSIC CITY AVS, Mrs. Ellie Jordan, Rt. 3 Box 3110, Royston 30662
FIRST SAINTPAULIA SOC, Mrs. Blanche Woodward, 3763 Citation Dr., Decatur 30034
*FLINT RIVER AVS, Elsie Dugan, 901 Society Ave., Albany 31701
*GEORGIA AV GROWERS CLUB, Joan Cumpton, 219 Sunset Dr., Warner Robins 31093
*GEORGIA AV JUDGES SOCIETY, Mrs. Ellie Jordan, Rt. 3 Box 3110, Royston 30662

GEORGIA STATE AV COUNCIL, Laura Walker, 562 Rue Montague, Stone Mountain 30083

HEART OF GEORGIA AVS, Ed Holst, Rt. 14 Baker Road, Macon 31211

HIGH HOPES VC OF SOUTH ATLANTA, Kathleen Peters, 8759 E. Bourne Dr., Jonesboro 30236

*MASTER CITY AV & GESNERIAD SOCIETY, Mrs. Mildred M. Wheatley, 2207 Breckenridge Ave., Augusta 30904

MIDDLE GEORGIA AVS, Jan Northenor, 314 Draper St., Warner Robins 31088

SOUTH FLORIDA AVC, Diane Mugovero, 8757 Elon Trail, Jonesboro 30236

ST. MARIAN SAINTPAULIA SOCIETY, Mrs. Belle Griffin, Box 383, St. Marys 31558

TARA AVC, Louise Moore, 220 Curved Road, Jonesboro 30236

VALDOSTA AVS, Willie Larson, 1520 Iola Dr., Valdosta 31602

HAWAII

AVS OF HAWAII, Mrs. Marion Skoufe, 1465 Aala St., Apt. 1703, Honolulu 96817

IDAHO

MAGIC VALLEY SAINTPAULIA CLUB, Mrs. Wanda McClain, 1062 S. Valley Rd., Eden 83325

ILLINOIS

AV FANCIERS, INC., Florise M. Hogan, 1220 31st St., Rockford 61108

AVS OF NO. ILLINOIS, Mrs. Jean Krewer, 1141 N. Beverly, Arlington Hts. 60004

*BARRINGTON BLOOMERS, Ms. Charlene Kulosky, 522 W. Meadow Ave., Lombard 60148

CHAIN O' LAKES AVS, Laurie Schaid, 40005 Circle Ave., Antioch 60002

EVENING BLOOMERS AVS, Mrs. Sandy Standley, 6817 N. Terra Vista Dr., Apt. 601, Peoria 61615

EXHIBITORS AVS, Mildred Schroeder, 1020 N. Harlem Apt. 4F, River Forest 60305

FORT MASSAC AVS, Emalyn Horntrop, 15 White Oak Lane, Metropolis 62960

*GLENVIEW/NORTH SHORE AVS, Barbara Goodsell, 429 Cherry Ln., Glenview 60025

ILLINOIS AVS, INC., Mrs. Edward Johnson, 4901 N. Ozanam, Norridge 60656

LAKE SHORE AVS, Barbara B. Corbett, 2427 Colfax Street, Evanston 60201

MARGARET SCOTT AVS, Mrs. Lois Fox, 308 Elmwood Dr., Champaign 61820

METROPOLITAN AVS OF PEORIA, Esther Matzke, 475 E. Clay, El Paso 61738

RADIANT AVC, Wayne Bates, 3844 Highcrest Rd., Rockford 61107

ROCKFORD AVC, Marge Bates, 3844 Highcrest Rd., Rockford 61107

SUBURBAN AV ENTHUSIASTS, Mrs. Connie Romanow, 15408 Linden Dr., Oak Forest 60452

*THE PIED PIPERS CLUB, Mrs. Carla Schornak, 4729 Vincent Avenue, Granite City 62040

TWIN CITIES AVS, Donna Willett, 42 Chiswick Circle, Bloomington 61704

INDIANA

GYPSY AVC, Mrs. Gwen Wildman, RR #1, Liberty 47353

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PLYMOUTH AVC, Mary Batcho, 6340 Michigan Rd., Plymouth 46563

STEUBEN COUNTY AVS, Marjorie Harrell, R #1 Box 261X, Hudson 46747

IOWA

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QUAD CITIES AVS, Mrs. Royce N. Schafer, 3830 Woodland Court, Davenport 52807

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LOUISIANA

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*ATCHAFALAYA VS OF AMERICA, Martha Dyson, 409 Snead St., Berwick 70342
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*JEFFERSON AV ASSN., Albert Armstrong, 1313 Gardenia Dr., Metairie 70005
L'ARK VC, Mrs. Maggie Nell Naff, Rt. 5 Box 532, Bastrop 71220
LAFAYETTE AVC, Jim Parker, 300 McDonald St. #21-0, Lafayette 70505
*LOUISIANA COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES, Y George Ramirez, 1620 Willowbend Dr., Morgan City 70380
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*SUNDOWNERS AVS, Mrs. Katy Oufnac, 13534 New Wood Ave., Baton Rouge 70818
*TOP CHOICE AVS, Vivian Kennedy, 9318 Overlook Drive, Shreveport 71118
*VIOLETS ON THE BAYOU, Anaise LeBlanc, 3525 Hwy. 1, Napoleonville 70390

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SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN VS, Joyce Stenger, 13601 Deerwater Drive, Germantown 20874

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PATRIOTS AVS, Nancy Frederickson, 101 Hosmer St., Hudson 01749
THE QUANNAPOWITT AVC, Mrs. Jean B. Nichols, 1152 Main Street, Reading 01960

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MID MICHIGAN AVS, Lori Dietz, 2020 140th Ave., Dorr 49323
NORTH OAKLAND AVC, Carole J. Smith, 6160 Old Orchard, Birmingham 48010

MINNESOTA

AV STUDY CLUB, Mrs. Charles Zondlo, 3326 Lincoln Street NE, Minneapolis 55418
AVS OF MINNESOTA, Mrs. Judith Neumann, 22875 Kirk Avenue No., Scandia 55073
FALCON HEIGHTS HILOA AVS, Mrs. Monroe Trapp, 1 Indian Hills Dr., Circle Pines 55014
NORTH STAR AV COUNCIL, Ruth Bann, 680 Marigold Ter., Fridley 55432
*THE VIKING VIOLETTES, Mrs. Dolores Harrington, 1620 Gardena Ave., Fridley 55432

WONDER AVC, Mrs. Austa Clark, 3537 W. Fuller St., Minneapolis 55410

MISSISSIPPI

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HATTIESBURG AVC, Mr. W. T. Lundy, 900 N 31st Avenue, Hattiesburg 39401

MISSOURI

AMETHYST AVC, Mrs. Homer R. Blanton, 622 Riverside Dr., St. Charles 63303
*AVS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY, David Buttram, 3018 Downey Ave., Independence 64055
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HI HOPES AVC, Mrs. Joseph A. Weisbrod, 829 Hi Crest Dr., St. Louis 63125
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MKO DYN-A-MITE AVS, Doris Carson, 1702 Joplin, Joplin 64804
*NORMANDY AVC, Helen Magill, 309 Carrollton Lane, St. Louis 63135
NORTHWEST AVC, Judy Williams, 9 Graeber Drive, Creve Coeur 63146
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SHO-ME AVC, Mrs. Kitty Julian, 700 Locust, Pleasant Hill 64080
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*THE CAVALIER AVS, Kay Otec, 5045 Tennessee Ave., St. Louis 63111
*UNPREDICTABLE'S AVC, The, Linda Golubski, 1416 A Street, Blue Springs 64015
*WEST COUNTY AVS, Ms. Glenda Holm, 6634 Flyer Avenue, St. Louis 63139

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NEBRASKA

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OMAHA AVS, Jerry Fay, 5405 No. 61 St., Omaha 68104

NEVADA

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VEGAS VALLEY AVS, Mrs. Chris Triner, 2104 Los Altos, Las Vegas 89102

NEW HAMPSHIRE

TWIN STATE AVS, Mrs. Frances Baschnagel, box 252 Tresscott Road, Etna 03750

NEW JERSEY

- AV CLUB OF BURLINGTON COUNTY**, Mrs. Laurel W. Brown,
139 Evergreen Dr., Willingboro 80846
***AV CLUB OF TRENTON**, Rhonda Thurman, 2028 Old York Rd.,
Burlington 08016
AVS OF NORTH JERSEY, Mrs. Becky Johnson, 345 Roosevelt Lane,
Kenilworth 07033
BERGEN COUNTY AVS, Fred Hill, 16 Banta Place, Bergenfield
07621
CENTRAL JERSEY AVS, Dale Jasaitis, 1178 Huron Road, North
Brunswick 08902
***NEW JERSEY COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES**, Dale Jasaitis, 1178
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Ave., Staten Island 10310
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13041
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Road, Rome 13440
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Newburgh 12550
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14701
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Square Station, New York 10108
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Square Station, New York 10108
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Jefferson 11777

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Charlotte 28227
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Goldsboro 27530

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Rocky Mount 27804

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ville 45458
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cinnati 45230
COLUMBUS AVS, Mrs. Betty Schulz, 1233 W. First Ave., Columbus
43212
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bus 43207
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Anderson, Piqua 45356

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Tulsa 74135
***GREEN COUNTRY AV STUDY CLUB**, Edna McCawley, 1721 S.
Fulton, Tulsa 74112
INDIAN CAPITAL AVS OF MUSKOGEE, Virginia Melanson,
1154 Maple Street, Muskogee 74403
LAWTON AVS, Patsy Worthen, 7 North 27th, Lawton 73505

OREGON

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Oswego 97034
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PENNSYLVANIA

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Ln., Levittown 19055
AVS OF PHILADELPHIA, Mrs. Peggy DePhillipo, 1074 Grange
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7, West Chester 19382
STATE COLLEGE AVS, Susan Fye, 311 Toftrees Ave., Apt. 139,
State College 16803

RHODE ISLAND

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MEMPHIS AVS, Peggy Adamson, 5198 Yellowwood Road, Memphis 38134

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NASHVILLE AVS, Dr. George McDonald, 2301 Woodmont, Springfield 37172

TENNESSEE VALLEY AVC, Mrs. Marie Anderson, 1999 Maplewood Drive, Knoxville 37920

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***ALPHA AVS OF DALLAS**, John Eads, 2310 Valarie Court, Garland 75043

AV CLUB OF GALVESTON, Althea Grossman, 2214 72nd, Galveston 77550

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***AV STUDY CLUB OF HOUSTON**, Karen Lang, 5115 Grape, Houston 77096

AVS OF BEAUMONT, Lyndall Owens, P. O. Box 288, Beaumont 77704

***AVS OF BROWNWOOD**, Ms. Iva B. Steele, 1216 Austin Ave., Brownwood 76801

AVS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, Charlsie Urquhart, Route 6 Box 6203, Brenham 77833

BRAZOS VALLEY AVC, Mrs. Ruth Goeke, Route 1 Box 73, Brenham 77833

***CEN-TEX RAINBOW AVC**, Mrs. Nava Moten, 3013 Main Ave., P. O. Box 981, Copperas Cove 76522

***CENTRAL TEXAS JUDGES COUNCIL**, Dottie Wilson, 3900 Carter Creek Parkway, Bryan 77802

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***FIRST ARLINGTON AVS**, Mrs. Dorothy Pauley, 2203 Wildflower, Arlington 76006

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***FIRST AVS OF SAN ANTONIO**, Jim Hall, 13810 Brook Hollow, San Antonio 78232

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FOUR SEASONS AVC, Hazel Davis, 3829 Purdue, Port Arthur 77642

GREATER HOUSTON AVS, Wayne Geeslin, 1202 Seagler Road #196, Houston 77042

GREEN THUMB AVS/SA, Kay Tucker, 207 W. Southcross, San Antonio 78211

***LONE STAR AV COUNCIL**, Dottie Wilson, 3900 Carter Creek Parkway, Bryan 77802

LUBBOCK AVS, Nancy Mitchell, 5214 95th St., Lubbock 79423

***MAGIC KNIGHT AVS**, Lynda Weichel, 9505 Wildwood Ridge, San Antonio 78250

MANHATTAN AVS, Mrs. Nancy Fortner, 15815 Laurelfield, Houston 77059

MARSHALL AVS, Denise Lucht, P. O. Box 1176, Marshall 75671

***MID-COUNTY AVC**, Betty Lovett, 608 S. 7th St., Nederland 77627

***MOONLIGHT AVS**, Kyle Coleman, 4308 Springbranch Drive, Fort Worth 76116

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 ***SAN ANTONIO AV COUNCIL**, Hector Becerra, Jr., 212 Briarcliff Drive, San Antonio 78213

SAN MARCOS AVC, Doris Strange, 202 Oakridge, San Marcos 78666

SPRING BRANCH AVC, Lenora Munk, 2015 Bauer St., Houston 77080

SWEET VI-O-LETS AVC, Patricia Champagne, 22214 Meadowrock Dr., Spring 77389

VALLEY AVS, Mrs. Jack Caldwell, 705 Lindberg, McAllen 78501

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AVS OF UTAH, Clem Martin, 269 W 780 So., Logan 84321
WASATCH SAINTPAULIANS, Mrs. Margaret Lavery, 266 Fishburn Dr., Brigham 84302

VIRGINIA

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OLD DOMINION AVC, James C. Roberson, 702 Payton Drive, Fredericksburg 22405

***POTOMAC COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES**, Jack Wilson, 10007 Bent Tree Lane, Manassas 22111

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THE TIDEWATER AVS, Sandi Flora, 8019 Baywood Drive, Norfolk 23518

WACHUSETT AVS, Ms. Sheryl Janke, 5159-C Overland Dr., Roanoke 24014

WASHINGTON

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LONGVIEW AVC, Virginia Bailey, 103 John St., Delso 98626

***SAINTPAULIA SOCIETY OF TACOMA**, Mrs. Marianne Smith, 4303 47th Ave. East, Tacoma 98443

SEATTLE AVS INC., Marguerite Strandlund, Registered Agent, 4126 54th SW, Seattle 98116

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COUNTRYSIDE AVC, Mrs. William A. Wall, 4742 Lafayette Dr., Madison 53705

CROSSTOWN AVC, Mrs. Bonnie Henell, 5705 Squaw Circle, Monona 53716

FIRST AVS OF JANEVILLE, Lorraine Simmons, Grand Ave., Janesville 53545

FOX VALLEY AVC, Sue Debrue, 800 Blackwell St., Kaukauna 54130

GREEN BAY AREA AVS, Carol Thelen, 1501 Hillcrest, Green Bay 54303

GREEN THUMB AVC, Doris Schenck, 722 Cranston Rd., Beloit 53511

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MANITOWOC AV LOVERS CLUB, Mrs. Almarie Schaus, 512 Pine Street, Manitowoc 54220

MILWAUKEE AVS, Helen Geisler, 1516 E. Olive St., Shorewood 53211

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RAINBOW VIOLETEERS, Ms. Leanne Lieske, 303 North 115th St., Wauwatosa 53226

***WAUKESHA VIOLETEERS**, Arlene Garvens, S 62 W 23154 Townline Rd., Waukesha 53119

WISCONSIN COUNCIL OF AV CLUBS, Ruth Mengsol, 5616 W. Cairdel Lane, Mequon 53092

WYOMING

CASPER BLOOMERS, Kathy Orr, 4095 E. 8th St., Casper 82609

THE SHERIDAN AVC, Hazel Aegeiter, 828 Arlington Blvd., Sheridan 82801

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CANADA

HODGSON LARRY, 1449 Av William, Sillery, Quebec G1S 4G5
A-MI VIOLETTES, Michelyne Frechette, FS Marier CP #630, St. Felix De Valois, Quebec J0K 2M0
ACA'S VIOLET-TREE, John Brownlie, 600 Silvercreek Blvd. 80, Mississauga, Ontario L5A 2B4
INLAND AFRICAN VIOLET COMPANY, Mary C. Thompson, 1216-24th Ave., Coaldale, Alberta T0K 0L0
LES VIOLETTES NATALIE, Natalie Pineault, 124 Ch Grapes, Sawyerville, PQ J0B 3S0
PLANTS N THINGS, Pollock Rd. RR2, Keswick, Ontario L4P 3E9
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UNITED STATES

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JUDY'S VIOLETS, 12047 Hwy. 104, Fairhope 36532

ALASKA

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MRS. HELEN KRUMREY, 6609 E. 12th, Anchorage 99504
LUCY'S CERAMICS, Lucy Moody, P. O. Box 370, Chugiak 99567
THE LIGHT GARDENER, Frances Martindale, 1514 Atkinson Drive, Anchorage 99504

ARIZONA

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SUDBURY LAWN & GARDEN PRODUCTS, 301 West Osborn, Phoenix 85067

ARKANSAS

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THE HOUSE OF VIOLETS, Charlyne Reed, 936-940 Garland St., Camden 71701
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SANDRA WILLIAMS, 102 9th St. E, Tierra Verde 33715

GEORGIA

KATHERINE FOWLER, 4488 Grier Dr., Lithonia 30058

NORTHBROOK NURSERY, Richard Hanlin, Rt. 1 Box 459 E. Hwy. 106, Hull 30646

PJ'S VIOLETS, Joan Cumpton, 219 Sunset Dr., Warner Robins 31088

TRAVIS' VIOLETS, Travis Davis, P. O. Box 42 Ellen St., Ochlocknee 31773
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A Genetic Model of Flower Color Inheritance in African Violets

Dr. Jeff Smith
Norman, Oklahoma

One of the attractive features of African violets is the wide range of colors available in the flowers. While the original species brought from Africa were all shades of blue, mutations soon arose that produced vibrant new colors such as pink and white. Over the last few years, other colors, such as red and coral have been added and very recently, the newest color, yellow, was announced. Flower color is known to be a genetically determined trait. Hybridizers have known for some time that some colors, such as blue, are dominant while others, such as pink, are recessive. What has been lacking, however, was an understanding of the genetic control of *all* the African violet colors. The purpose of this article is to propose a model of how eight classes or categories of flower colors in African violets are controlled genetically. While the model will need further testing before it can be accepted as fact, it should provide a framework for hybridizers to manipulate and predict the results of their crosses. Because a knowledge of some of the language and principles of Genetics will be necessary in understanding the model, this article has been written to introduce the novice to the necessary terminology as it explains how the model works.

The model is built upon the biochemistry of the flower pigments. The flower pigments of African violets are flavonoids, chiefly anthocyanins and flavonols. The biochemistry of the anthocyanins is well known and their synthesis pathways documented. Earlier work on the chemical analysis of the flower pigments (Smith, 1990) identified the specific flavonoids found in some African violets. From the comparative chemical structures of these pigments, a suggested pathway of their synthesis can be made (Figure 1). This pathway describes a step by step process that starts from a pigment precursor and converts it to a flavonol pigment. From there, the pigment is oxidized to an antho-

cyanin. The presence of zero, one, or two CH₃ groups attached to the anthocyanin will determine its color. Each step in the process is controlled by a specific enzyme. If the plant has the enzyme, the synthesis process will continue to the next step. If any enzyme is missing or is not functional, the process will not continue past that point. In this model, four enzymes are needed to complete the synthesis from the colorless pigment precursor to the blue pigment Malvidin.

The manufacturing of enzymes is under the genetic control of the plant. If the plant has the necessary genetic information in its DNA, the enzyme is made. If for some reason, the genetic information is inaccurate or missing, the enzyme is not made properly and the pigment synthesis process stops at that point. Mutations are mistakes in the DNA that often cause these enzymes to dysfunction.

Generally, plants have two copies of the DNA for each enzyme. It requires the failure of *both* copies before no functional enzyme is manufactured and the synthesis process of the pigments is interrupted. In most instances, one "bad" or dysfunctional copy can be corrected if the second copy is "good" or functional. This means that the visible interruption of the pigment synthesis pathway will only be apparent if both copies of the DNA for the enzyme are bad. Only then will the pathway be totally interrupted and some earlier pigment of the pathway be visibly expressed.

In genetic terms, the region of DNA that says "make an enzyme" is known as a *gene*. The two ways of making the enzyme, functional (good) or dysfunctional (bad) are known as *alleles*. Since most organisms have two copies of each gene, the alleles can be in three arrangements: good-good, good-bad, or bad-bad. Geneticists use a shorthand code of symbols to represent these arrangements of the alleles.

Genetic symbols for genes can be anything you wish. Typically, a letter or symbol is chosen to remind the geneticist of what the gene controls. The various forms of the genes, the alleles, represent if the enzymes are functional and the trait is expressed. A capital letter means the allele is always expressed if present. This is what geneticists call a *dominant allele*. If the allele is not expressed except when the dominant is missing, the allele is referred to as a *recessive allele*. To show that the recessive is an alternate form of the same gene, the same symbol is used, but it is written in lower case. Recessives often represent a dysfunctional form of the enzyme while dominants usually mean the enzyme is functional.

For the genetic model for flower color in African violets, I have adopted the following symbols for the four enzymes shown in Figure 1:

Figure 1

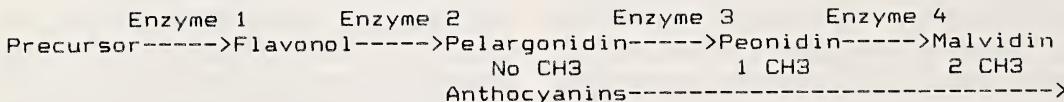


Figure 2



Enzyme 1 = W. This enzyme converts the pigment precursor to the flavonol. The recessive of this gene, w, means that no pigment is made, resulting in white flowers.

Enzyme 2 = Y: This enzyme converts the flavonol to the pink anthocyanin Pelargonidin. The recessive of this gene, y, means that there is no conversion to an anthocyanin, resulting in yellow flowers.

Enzyme 3 + R: This enzyme adds one CH3 groups to the Pelargonidin molecule converting it to the red anthocyanin Peonidin. The recessive of this gene, r, means that no CH3 groups is added to the molecule, result-

ing in pink flowers.

Enzyme 4 = B: This enzyme adds a CH3 group to Peonidin converting it to the blue anthocyanin Malvidin. The recessive of this gene, b, means that a second CH3 group is not added to the molecule, resulting in red flowers.

Only one working copy of each enzyme, shown in code by a capital letter is necessary to complete the conversion of a pigment to the next step. The second copy can be good (dominant) or bad (recessive), but the visible result will still be the same. Geneticists often use a "W_" symbol, for example, to show that the second copy of the allele is not necessary to complete the next pigment synthesis step.

Figure 2 shows the pigment synthesis pathway of Figure 1 rewritten into the genetic shorthand code and resulting flower colors. The two

lower case symbols represent that neither copy of the enzyme works (known as homozygous recessive) and the pathway cannot go past this step. Pink, for example, results when both copies of the R gene fail (rr) and the plant can only make Pelargonidin, not continue on in the synthesis pathway to Peonidin.

A fifth gene or enzyme is needed to explain the presence of Coral and Coral Red. The pigment analysis study showed that the Pink and Coral categories have the same anthocyanin, Pelargonidin. The only difference between these two colors is that Coral lacked a glucose (a sugar) at the number 5 position on the mole-

cule. Coral Red differs from Red by the same glucose difference. The fifth enzyme, in the dominant allele form, D, places the glucose on the anthocyanin molecule in the 5th position. The recessive allele, d, occurs when the enzyme does not function and the glucose is not added to the anthocyanin molecule. Hence, Pink becomes Coral, and Red becomes Coral Red. Blue should become Coral Blue, but no Coral Blue plant has yet been experimentally verified. It is unknown if the D gene would have an effect on the yellow flavonols. The effect would depend on if the D gene acts before or after the Y or R genes in the pigment pathway.

When geneticists describe a plant, they may refer to its **phenotype** or to its **genotype**. Pheno-

type refers to the physical appearance of the organism, for example, flower color. Genotype refers to the **genes** or codes for the alleles of dominant/recessive. The genes themselves are not visible, only their effects are. Since each trait has two alleles or copies, two letters are necessary to describe each gene. Table 1 gives the phenotype (color) and the genotype (alleles) for flower color in African violets. If no letters are given, for example the Y, R, B and D genes in the phenotype of "white," these genes are *after* the defect in the pigment pathway that gave this visible color. The genes are still present and are inherited by offspring, but they are irrelevant to the phenotype of white color. If only one capital letter is present in Table 1, then the second allele

TABLE 1

Genes/Genotypes

Color/Phenotypes	W	Y	R	B	D
White	WW	--	--	--	--
Yellow	W_	YY	--	--	--
Pink	W_	Y_	rr	--	D_
Red	W_	Y_	R_	--	D_
Blue	W_	Y_	R_	B_	D_
Coral	W_	Y_	rr	--	dd
Coral Red	W_	Y_	R_	bb	dd
Coral Blue	W_	Y_	R_	B_	dd

can be either dominant or recessive. The critical point is that one dominant allele *must* be present for the trait to be expressed. Blue flowers, for example, depend on all five genes having at least one dominant allele. Coral Red, on the other hand, is expressed only when W, Y, and R, are dominant, but the B and D genes are recessive (bb and dd). The various combinations of the five genes will produce the eight phenotype categories of flower color.

This genetic model seeks to use the flower pigments known for African violets and relate them to their biochemical synthesis pathway. The model assumes that each step of pigment production is controlled by a specific enzyme and that each enzyme is controlled by one gene. Five different genes are proposed to control the main flower color classes. The model is similar to that proposed for the African primrose *Streptocarpus* (Lawrence and Sturgess, 1957) and is consistent with the genetic control of flower color in many other species of plants (Grant, 1975). This model for flower color in African violets does not, however, explain colored edges, fantasy patterns and other changes in pigment distribution patterns. These traits will be under the control of other genes that modify the distribution of the pigments within the flower. Further uses, implications, and experiment verification of this genetic model will be discussed in future articles.

Acknowledgments: This model is a proposed explanation of the genetic control of flower color in African violets. I would encourage comments from others on its apparent validity, especially those with extensive hybridization experience.

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A Family Portrait

Georgene Albrecht
101 Oak Heights Drive
Oakdale, PA 15071



Episcia 'Acajou'

Remember 20 years ago when 'Chocolate Soldier' was almost a household word. *Episcias* were called the flame violet or fairy trumpets.

Today, many varieties look alike. Here's a list of plants that will grow well in artificial or natural light and represent their group well.

Variety

Foliage

Bloom

* <i>hirsuta</i>	green velvet	white-lilac
Temptation	dark metallic rose	red
*Cleopatra	pink, white, green	red
Faded Jade	green, silver	red
Country Color	salmon, rose, bronze	red
* <i>lilacina 'Selby's Best'</i>	metallic-green	lilac
Pink Panther	bronze, copper	large pink
Acajou	dark green, silver	red
Silver Skies	silver-green (small)	red
Longwood Gardens	small, dark brown	red

*requires terrarium

Even though there were just a few species used in hybridizing, look at the variety of foliage color and texture. The above varieties are available at many of the commercial growers. Do not hesitate to order cuttings. They ship very well and will recover from wilt if bathed in tepid water. Add a drop of Superthrive to the water when starting cuttings. This product is wonderful in a foliar food, too, although it is not a fertilizer.

Author, Harold E. Moore, Jr., describes *Episcia* as "low, hairy, generally terrestrial, stolon-producing herbs with short stoutish central stem." And, of course, there are exceptions. My *E. hirsuta* never produces stolons. Most hybrids between *E. punctata*, *cuprea*, *reptans* and *lilacina* are the easiest to cultivate. Some produce too many stolons. Of the gesneriads in my collection, they are the least prone to insect invasion. Individual leaves taken as a cutting need to callous before insertion in the medium. Treat them just like saintpaulia and they produce plants in good time. Never have had luck hanging them outside because the wind damages the tender foliage and tangles the stolons. Aphids also attack new growth.

Walt Maurus has compiled a guideline, "Episcias, A Fancier's Primer" which is the best listing to date. It gives cultural information as well as descriptions when available. The list is available for \$5.00 postpaid from Walt Maurus, P.O. Box 2247, Livonia, MI 48151. Walt also tells me that my previous pronunciation of episcia needs revision. Let's try "eh PIS see ah" again.

As for culture, any light, potting mix will do but adding some chunks of whole sphagnum moss will produce great foliage. They love fish emulsion and concentrated seaweed fertilizers. Seems to me that the dark foliages need more light, about 1,000 footcandles, than the green foliages. The metallic rose and green foliages tend to do best at about 800. If you have a variety that stolons excessively, remove all but an uneven number or you can remove all of them to promote just one large plant. The reason odd numbers of stolons are mentioned is that odd numbers are much more graceful and pleasing to the eye. All episcias love humidity. Remember that they have very fine fibrous root systems that dry rapidly because they are barely under

the soil surface. Plant them in shallow pots, bowls or dishes. At the Boston convention, The Violet House of Gainesville, FL was selling the most wonderful shallow pots. I think they are listed in their ad as pan pots, very wide but shallow, like bulb pans. Episcias love them. Temperatures are very important, always keep them above 68° or higher, if possible. They love to bask in their native habitats of Central and South America.

To rejuvenate a floppy plant, remove the root system if the stem is too long, then remove the bottom leaves and insert or wrap the stem in sphagnum moss. Enclose the whole plant in plastic for about 10 days, unwrap it slowly. Saran wrap can also be used to make a cocoon around the plant.

Diatomaceous Earth

Even though I sent James Smith, our "Question Box" columnist, a statement about diatomaceous, let me repeat my concern. Yes, it does work by penetrating pests, but, it contains abrasive silica. Do not inhale or ingest this powder. If applying it as a dust, wear a mask. I would even wear eye protection. Yes, it is a natural product, yet, natural does not necessarily mean safe.

Several growers have contacted me about the amount to use in the soil for Pritchard mealybug. If I remember correctly most of those devils congregated on the crown stem at the soil line. I suggested that they use an artist's brush to powder that area with a heavy dusting of diatomaceous. I watered in a level teaspoon of this earth in a three-inch pot. I do not believe that the silica damages fine feeder roots.

Plant Talk

The 'Mighty Minis' woman, Jean Stokes, encouraged me to write for *African Violet Magazine*. The two of us love the little ones. Jean told me how much she likes *Aeschynanthus* 'Red Elf' as a basket plant. Hope it will do well outside in summer, inside in winter. Let me tell you about two trailers that are "knockouts." S. 'Alan's Fallen Angel' by Murphy and 'Honeymoon Trail' by Elkin are outstandingly differ-

ent. Fallen Angel is a miniature with the whitest variegated trailing foliage I've ever grown. Mine has perfect single snow white blooms with that crystalline glitter. Honeymoon Trail is a small trailer with the most darling bells. They have fluted edges. Visitors think they look like white rose buds.

Daryl James, a devoted AVSA and Dixie member, has been transplanted from Birmingham, AL to Pittsburgh and we are determined to find enough interested people to start a chapter. Please contact me if you live in the area. We did a program about African violets and family at the Pittsburgh Civic Garden Center during May Market. Daryl brought Granger's Wonderland and I, the miniatures. The public created so much interest in them that we could not set up. Love to show them a species, then S. 'Georgene'; hybridizing has come a long way. Thanks, Irene Fredette.

Let me clarify a statement about the microencapsulated X-clude from a previous column. The manufacturer, Whitmire, did not label the Orthene product for use in home, office, etc. This is not meant to say that Orthene (powdered only) cannot be used on saintpaulia. Just use it wisely. This is a very sensitive subject. No, I do not use Orthene in my home, I spray it outside and allow the plant to dry there. Wear protective gear, follow label directions and if you do not have a pest problem, why use it at all? Orthene is known to cause growth retardation and some mutation. It is a wonderful product and fulfills a need.

Some manufacturers do not list or even manufacture needed chemicals because the cost of documenting and testing is prohibitive.

Our local Ortho representative spoke recently about a new line of organic products that they will be marketing shortly. I think the name will be Orthoganics. It was shocking to hear that in the test marketing, gardeners bought the standard chemicals and shunned the organics. Even though we all clamor for a safer environment, when it comes down to the nitty-gritty, we opt for the product that is fast, effective and familiar.

One-by-one they will vanish and we will be forced to "get smart."

Jumping into Violets ... Whole Hog

Claire Ulanoff
Miami, FL

It was a little over one year ago when I decided to indulge my lifelong, haphazard hobby of growing African violets, and to really get into the thing whole hog. In that first flush of becoming a violet "nut," I jumped in with both feet — and possibly even a couple of borrowed feet! In came the light stands, the fluorescent fixtures, plant foods, supplements, soil mixes of all kinds, and an assortment of doodads and geegaws that would do a commercial nursery proud. With all those goodies to play with, naturally I needed plants to fuss over. Within a few months, my half dozen violets, bought from our local supermarket, were joined by 30 of their sisters, carrying fancy pedigrees and registered names. The stage was set for ... ? Now, after a year of finding out just what the stage was set for, I keep thinking that if I'd known then what I know now ...

For a few months the plants grew beautifully. Having been a windowsill/lightbulb grower for so many years, the difference under fluorescents was remarkable. Loads of bloom and lots of green, happy violets were making me awfully sure of myself. People at work were starting to call me the "violet lady" and were thrilled by the extra plants that made their way into the office. I was getting cocky, and we all know what happens then!

What happened here, is that six months after violet fever hit, thrips moved in. The little beggars came visiting one day, decided they liked the accommodations, and chose to be fruitful and multiply. They multiplied to the point of bad taste — *nothing* should reproduce itself at that rate. Suddenly all my lovely blossoms were pollen-stained as large families of thrips took daily walking tours through my garden. Rats, thought I, this is war!

Off came the flowers. Out came the soapy

rinses. Hello, said the thrips. Off came the flowers. Out came the bug sprays. How're ya doing, said the thrips. Off came the flowers. Out came the drenches. Pass the suntan lotion, said the thrips. This was becoming an obsession. I learned how to blow on the flowers to disturb my little guests and actually catch them by hand. By this time my violet collection had increased to almost 80 plants of various sizes. Can you picture this grown woman standing stock still in front of 80 African violets, waiting to pinch thrips? This was *not* what I had hoped for.

I'd pretty much decided to start my own version of a flea circus using thrips (*very* tiny acrobats?) when one of your lovely advertisers offered a continuous-action aerosol pyrethrin

sprayer that would kill thrips. An article explaining the device had appeared in the African Violet Magazine about two issues before the ad, so I ordered a sprayer. If it'll help anyone else out there, I started the aerosol in mid-April, let it run 24 hours a day, and by early May the thrips were gone. Truly gone, I think, as this is early June and I haven't seen any for weeks. I didn't have to disbud, didn't have to live with horrid smelling chemicals, didn't have to stand around waiting for the thrips to show themselves, and life has gone back to normal. I've learned how to grow variegates and trailers, the plants are blooming like mad, people at the office are clamoring again, and I feel like I can relax and take a long, deep breath.

Last week I lost two plants to crown rot ...

**Driving to the 1991 AVSA Convention from outside of California with plants or soil?
Just take a few minutes to read this:**

Going Through a Border Station ... The Easy Way

Will you be going through a border station to get to the 1991 AVSA Convention? Don't worry about getting plants, plant materials or soil in and out of California! Just follow these three easy steps from the California Agriculture Department and enjoy your trip through our Golden State of California.

1. Contact your local agriculture department to find out what type of certification is required for California entry. Bring those papers with you and keep them handy for a border station.

2. Write clearly on the UPPER or FACE SIDE on the outside of each box or package:

a. "plant material," "live plants," or "plants"; and

b. the name and address of the shipper or owner, or use an address label; and

c. the name of the person to whom the shipment is being forwarded or shipped, or the name of his agent.

3. Put the following information on either the outside or inside of each box:

a. the name of the country, state, or territory where the contents were grown; and

b. a statement of the boxes contents.

All border stations will be notified 10 days

before the convention that our AVSA members are coming. To help them, please have your paperwork handy and have your plants, soil, etc., accessible in case they need to inspect them. If you are inspected at a border station, just keep any papers that they give you, while you are in California.

We are very happy that you will be joining us at the 1991 AVSA Convention, "Violets In The Golden State," in Santa Clara, California. It will be the best AVSA convention ever. Have a wonderful trip!

Please Note: Keep any papers that you get from the border station; you might need to show these to a California Agricultural Agent at entries.

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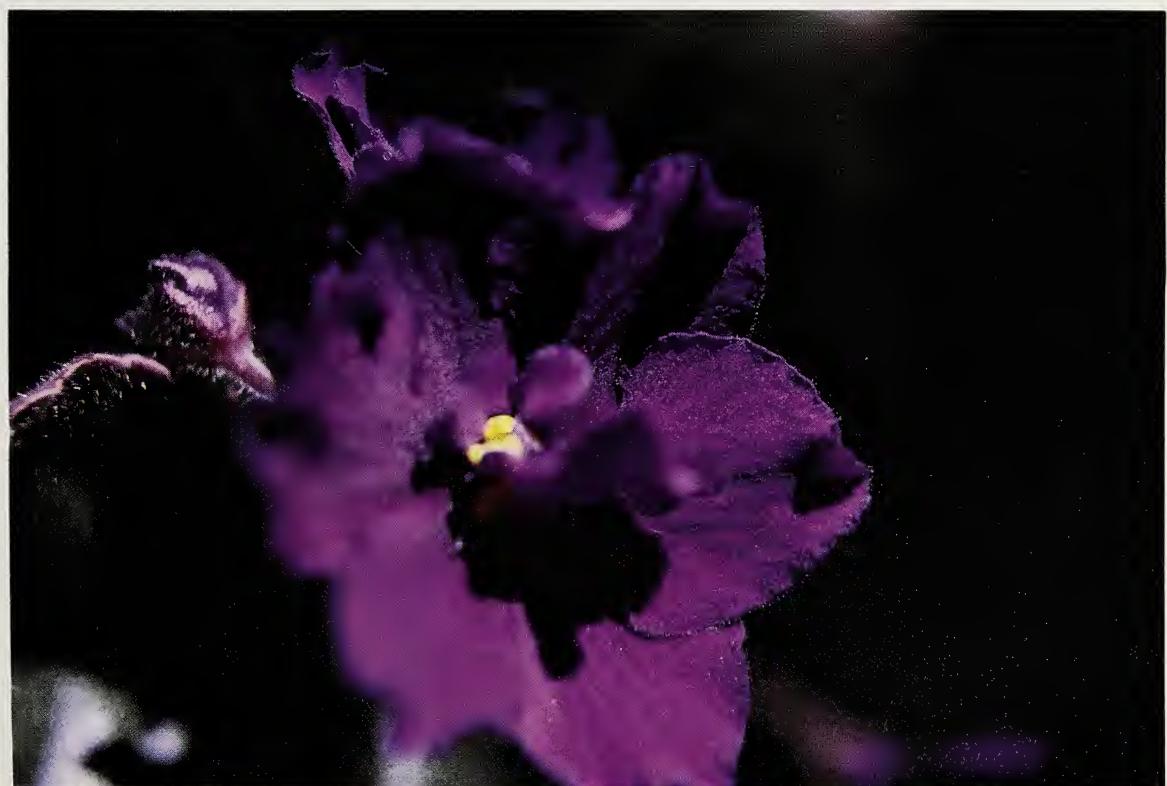
HYBRIDIZED
AND
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BY

IRENE
FREDETTE

SWEET
JENNY



EASY GOER



Fungus Gnats — and their importance

Dr. Charles Cole
Texas A&M

Fungus gnat is the common name given to a group of small flies. More than 600 species of fungus gnats are found in North America. Most species are of no importance to humans or the plants we grow. A few species will invade our territory and become a nuisance pest. A still fewer number of species may cause damage to plants.

Description

Adult fungus gnats range in size from 1/8 to almost 1/2 inch in length. Most species are grayish to black, but a few are colored with white or yellow. Adults have relatively long antennae and legs. They have one pair of transparent wings which are usually clear, but may be slightly smoky colored.

The larval, or immature stage of fungus gnats, are legless and thread-like in appearance. They are translucent to white in color and have a dark head. When full grown, larvae are about 1/4 inch long.

Life Cycle

Female gnats deposit small white eggs in the soil. They are about 1/100 of an inch long and are deposited in batches of about 30 eggs. Each female may lay as many as 100-300 eggs. The eggs hatch in 4-6 days, depending upon the temperature.

Larvae feed upon decaying organic matter, fungi, and occasionally live plant tissue. They reach maturity in 5-14 days and pupate in the soil or on the soil surface. In 5-6 days adults emerge from the pupae. They mate and immediately lay eggs for the next generation.

Habits

Fungus gnats breed in moist, shaded areas with an abundance of organic matter. Adults

feed on plant exudations and nectar while the larvae feed on fungi and decaying organic matter. Only a few species have been observed feeding on living plant tissue.

A number of species are commonly found in greenhouses, flower boxes and in potted plants in the home. Often, large numbers of adults may be found swarming in a home, flower shop or greenhouse.

Larvae are quite mobile and have been observed migrating in large numbers across the surface of the soil or across greenhouse benches, from pot to pot.

Adults are attracted to lights and can be seen in large numbers at windows. They are commonly found dead in light globes.

Damage

It is unusual to find plants damaged by fungus gnats. However, when a phytophagous species is present in large numbers, roots show small brownish scars where feeding has occurred. Occasionally root hairs will be destroyed. Heavily infested plants show lack of vigor and can turn yellowish if the infestation persists.

Control

The use of certain cultural practices aid in preventing or eliminating fungus gnat infestations. This is particularly true in the greenhouse.

Overwatering, water leaks and poor drainage contribute to conditions which favor fungus gnat infestations. Correcting these factors greatly reduces fungus gnat problems. The accumulation of organic matter in and around the greenhouse promotes fungus gnat infestations. Removing old plant material and other debris helps considerably in controlling infes-

tations.

If chemical control of an infestation becomes necessary, a number of effective pesticides are available on the market. Adults may be controlled with sprays, aerosols or vapor-releasing strips.

The larvae may be controlled with soil drenches or granular formulations applied to the soil surface and watered in.

Fungus gnats may be controlled with products containing: diazinon, (Knox-Out®), dichlorvos (DDVP, Vapona®), malathion, pyrethrin, and resmethrin.

Many products containing different formulations of these chemicals can be purchased. Before using an insecticide, refer to the label directions for the specific product. Always read and follow carefully the instructions on the container label.



Winners for the AVC of Greater Tulsa (OK) were: Linda MaGaha, winning Best Design, Horticultural Sweepstakes and 2nd Best Collection; Dorothy Harris with her Best Trailer, *Dancing Trail*, and Linda Bjorkman holding Best in Show, *Bertha*. Linda also won Best Collection, *Bertha*, *Lela Marie* and *Janica Ann*; Best Miniature, *Everdina*, Best Semi, *Surprise Party*, which also won Best variegated.

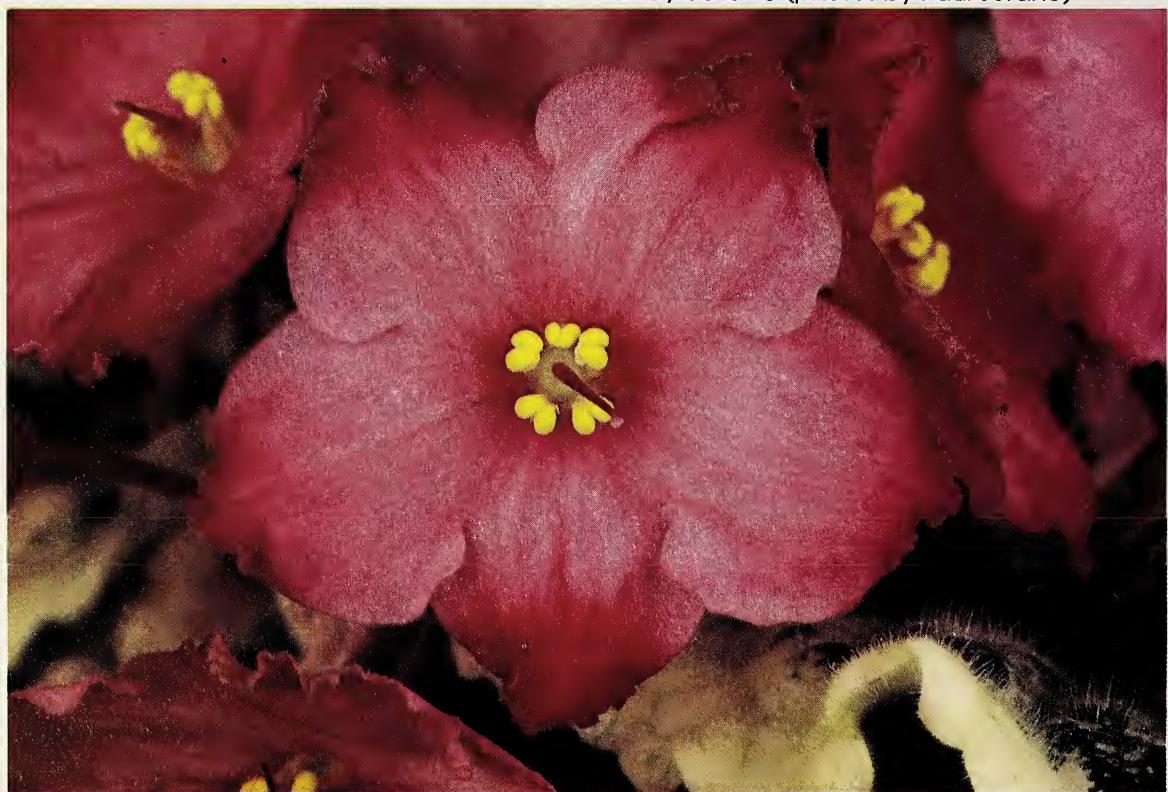


The Richmond AVS had the privilege of participating in a floral exhibit at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. The fund raising event, held every two years, is a show of flower arrangements, each of which interprets a work of art in the museum. The arrangements were done by garden clubs from around the state. A special exhibit of African violets and gesneriads was displayed in a room with African art.



TAFFY PULL
PURRFECT LOVE

LYNDON LYON GREENHOUSES
Paul & Sidney Sorano (photos by Paul Sorano)



Registration Report

Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway
Hollywood, FL 33019



Reservations are good for a two year period and cost \$1.00. They may be renewed for one more two year period. Registrations cost \$5.00 unless you have paid for a reservation and it is still within the two year period. The cost is then \$4.00.

REGISTRATIONS

Kent Stork, Arlington, NE

- ***MEDICINE MAN** - Large - Semidouble/ double reddish coral wavy pansy. Light green plain foliage. #7339 3/19/90
- ***OTOE** - Standard - Semidouble deep coral pink star with wavy petal edges. Dark green plain, pointed foliage, rose reverse. #7340 3/19/90

Gordon Boone, Bethany, OK

- ***FLASH FIRE** - Standard - Semidouble deep fuchsia ruffled pansy. Medium green, somewhat glossy, tailored foliage. #7341 3/19/90
- ***GALA PINK** - Large - Pink wavy double star. Dark green plain foliage with red reverse. #7342 3/19/90
- ***OUTRAGE** - Large - Double dark blue star. Black green, red reverse, plain foliage. #7343 3/19/90
- ***TWILIGHT HALO** - Large - Semidouble violet blue pansy with fine geneva edge. Tommie Lou variegated tailored foliage. #7344 3/19/90

Bertie Jackson, Sacramento, CA

- ***BERTIE'S PRETTY POSY** - Standard - Double cobalt blue fantasy with pink puffs and streaks. Dark green, wavy, quilted foliage. #7345 3/27/90

Reinhold Holtkamp, Nashville, TN

(Optimara & Rhapsodie)

- ***OPTIMARA BLUE TOPAZ** - Miniature - Single purplish blue. Medium green, hairy, pointed, glossy foliage. #7346 4/11/90
- ***OPTIMARA EVERGLADES** - Standard - Single/semidouble blue with ruffled edge. Medium green, hairy, plain, slightly glossy foliage. #7347 4/11/90
- ***OPTIMARA HOUSTON** - Standard - Single solid deep blue. Medium green round, slightly hairy, wavy, serrated, glossy girl foliage. Compact grower. #7348 4/11/90
- ***OPTIMARA LITTLE AQUAMARINE** - Miniature - Single white with blue eye. Medium green, hairy, pointed, slightly serrated foliage. #7349 4/11/90
- ***OPTIMARA LITTLE CRYSTAL** - Miniature - Single/semidouble white wasp blossom. Medium green, hairy, pointed, glossy, heart-shaped foliage. #7350 4/11/90
- ***OPTIMARA LITTLE KUNZITE** - Miniature - Single dark pink two tone with deep pink eye. Light green, hairy, glossy, heartshaped foliage. #7351 4/11/90
- ***OPTIMARA LITTLE MOONSTONE** - Miniature - Double white with touch of light blue in the center. Light green round, cupped, hairy, ruffled foliage. #7352 4/11/90
- ***OPTIMARA LITTLE TOURMALINE** - Miniature - Semidouble dark pink. Medium green, hairy, pointed, glossy, heartshaped foliage. #7353 4/11/90
- ***OPTIMARA SAMOA** - Standard - Single slightly wavy purple with occasional geneva edge. Dark green, hairy, slightly serrated, glossy, heartshaped/ovate foliage. #7354 4/11/90

- ***OPTIMARA SOUTH CAROLINA II** - Standard - Single white star, may have purplish blue eye. Medium green, hairy, slightly serrated, heartshaped/ovate foliage. #7355 4/11/90
- ***OPTIMARA TEXAS II** - Standard - Single fringed light blue. Dark green, hairy, plain, slightly glossy foliage. #7356 4/11/90
- ***OPTIMARA VIOLET SAPPHIRE** - Miniature - Single purplish blue star. Light green, hairy, pointed, serrated, glossy foliage. #7357 4/11/90
- ***OPTIMARA VIRGINIA II** - Standard - Single fringed bright pink two tone with darker eye. Medium green, hairy, slightly serrated, glossy, heartshaped/ovate foliage. #7358 4/11/90
- ***RHAPSODIE BOBBIE** - Standard - Single white with blue edges, somewhat wasp shaped. Medium green, hairy, slightly glossy, heartshaped/ovate foliage. #7359 4/11/90
- ***RHAPSODIE LUCY** - Standard - Single/semidouble dark lilac. Medium green, hairy, plain, glossy, ovate foliage. #7360 4/11/90
- ***RHAPSODIE MONIQUE II** - Standard - Single/semidouble ruffled dark lilac two tone with darker eye radiating into top petals. Medium green, hairy, serrated, glossy, ovate foliage. #7361 4/11/90
- ***RHAPSODIE NICOLE** - Standard - Single vibrant purplish red. Medium green, hairy, plain, glossy foliage. #7362 4/11/90
- ****

Barbara Elkin, Auburn, CA

- ***BRYTE BEGINNINGS** - Miniature - Semidouble medium blue pansy. Variegated dark green and white, pointed, plain, glossy foliage. #7363 4/19/90
- ***BRYTE CRYSTAL** - Semiminiature trailer - Single wavy reddish orchid two tone star with light orchid edge. Medium green, quilted, pointed semitrailing foliage. #7364 4/19/90
- ***BRYTE ENDEAVOR** - Miniature - Single pinkish orchid pansy. Darker upper petals with thin dark orchid edge. Dark green plain foliage. #7365 4/19/90
- ***BRYTE VISION** - Standard - Semidouble bright pink star with dark raspberry edge and then a wavy geneva edge. Medium green,

pointed, plain, serrated foliage. #7366 4/19/90

- ***CHARLOTTE ANN** - Standard - Double hot pink fringed star shaded with raspberry on outer edges, and geneva edge. Dark green, pointed, plain, serrated foliage, red reverse. #7367 4/19/90
- ***GREEN CRYSTAL** - Standard - Single pale rose star with white center stripe and fringed green edge. Medium green, fringed, wavy, pointed foliage. #7368 4/19/90
- ***HONEYMOON TRAIL** - Semiminiature trailer - Single snow white bells. Medium green, plain, pointed, semitrailing foliage. #7369 4/19/90
- ***IRETTE** - Semiminiature - Single pansy, rose pink bottom petals fading to light pink edge, plum pink upper petals. Medium green, plain, hairy, pointed, serrated foliage. #7370 4/19/90
- ***KON TIKI** - Miniature - Single rose coral star, violet fantasy. Dark green, plain, pointed, hairy foliage, blotched red reverse. #7371 4/19/90
- ***LISOLETTE** - Semiminiature - Single pansy orchid bottom petals with dark pink upper petals. Dark green, plain, pointed foliage, red reverse. #7372 4/19/90
- ***SHERRY LOVE** - Standard - Double fringed fuchsia and white bell. Dark green, plain, pointed, serrated, hairy foliage, red blotched reverse. #7373 4/19/90
- ****

Dottie Wilson, Bryan, TX

- ***TOUCH OF VELVET** - Large - Single/semidouble ruffled rose pansy two tone with darker upper petals and light edges. Black green, wavy, quilted, ovate, glossy foliage with dark red reverse. #7374 5/10/90
- ****

Shirley Farnsworth, Bakersfield, CA

- ***SOUL MUSIC** - Standard - Semidouble dark blue chimera with white center stripe and green fringed edge. Medium green ruffled foliage. #7375 5/14/90
- ****

Ernest Laurence Nam, Landillo, NSW, Australia

- ***SUNSET AUSTRALIS** - Standard - Single ruffled pink chimera with blue center stripe.

Medium green quilted foliage. #7376 5/14/
90

REGISTRATION CORRECTIONS

There has been a duplication of registration numbers on new registrations in the May AVM. Listed below are the names of the cultivars and the correct numbers.

*Tiger's Son #7265 *Dixie Fiesta #7266 *Maggie Lee #7267 *Quilting Bee #7268 *Tomahawk #7269 *Little Jayhawker #7270 *Hoot-N-Toot #7271 *Just Fun #7272 *Love Talks #7273 *Midnight Comet #7274 *Peach Puff #7275 *Ruffles-N-Swirls #7276 *Snow Fire #7277 *Star Shot #7278 *Sweet Amy Rebecca #7279 *Dorothy Parker #7280 *Fantasy Fringe #7281 *Fantasy Sprite #7282 *Fantasy Sunburst #7283 *Fashion Flair #7284 *Julie Ann #7285 *Katy #7286 *Kumiko #7287 *Misty Cloud #7288 *Orchid Glory #7289 *Pink Radiance #7290 *Rose of Lorraine #7291 *Tye Dyed #7292 *Utako #7293

Holtkamp, Nashville, TN

*RHAPSODIE MEG - #6963 - Please change name to OPTIMARA MEG
*OPTIMARA LOUISIANA #6959 - Please change name to OPTIMARA LOUISIANA II

Please change size of all plants listed below to Standard. Add to the description: This is a compact growing plant.

*OPTIMARA BALTIMORE #6547
*OPTIMARA BOSTON #6549
*OPTIMARA CHICAGO #6551
*OPTIMARA COLUMBUS #6553
*OPTIMARA DENVER #6556
*OPTIMARA LEO #6564
*OPTIMARA LIBRA #6565
*OPTIMARA MEMPHIS #6572
*OPTIMARA NASHVILLE #6580
*OPTIMARA NEW ORLEANS #6584
*OPTIMARA ORLANDO #6590
*OPTIMARA SAGITTARIUS #6594

To the plants listed below, add to the description: This is a compact growing plant.

*OPTIMARA ATLANTA #6546
*OPTIMARA CAPRICORN #6550
*OPTIMARA CLEVELAND #6552
*OPTIMARA MIAMI #6573
*OPTIMARA SAN FRANCISCO #6971
*OPTIMARA SEATTLE #6595

Barbara Elkin, Auburn, CA

*SNOW DROPS - #6143 - Listed as a Miniature. Please change to Miniature trailer.

Marie Burns, Baltimore, MD

*MAGIC - #6377 - Please change blossom description from semidouble to Semidouble/double.
*MAGNOLIA - #6378 - Please change blossom description from semidouble to Semidouble/double.

Patt Harris, Santa Clara, CA

*DRESDEN DOLL #7259
*PATTS CAMEO #6895
*SWEET AMY SUE #6896
*TIGER TRAIL #6897

Please change size from Semiminiature trailer to Standard trailer on all the above listed varieties.

Betty Bryant, Tomball, TX

*TEXAS HOTSHOT - Large - Single rose pink two tone ruffled pansy. Variegated, dark green, longifolia, quilted, wavy, supreme, spooned, ovate, pointed, glossy foliage. #6668 6/1/87. Please note addition of variegated to the description.

NAME RESERVATIONS

Raymond Russell, Lawrence, KS

* Blissful Lady * Bubbling Over * Coral Dawn * Fancy Sparkler * Flights of Fantasy * Foolish Pride * Ray's Pride * Strawberry Love * Twice Spice * Yesterdays Love

Sidney Sorano, Dolgeville, NY

* Berry Dazzle * Berry Pink * Blue Echoes * Blue Eyed Babe * Blue Is Blue * Burning Star * Candy Cluster * Candy Sprinkles * Champagne Frost * Chasin Dreams * Chasin Sunshine * Cherry Kiss * Cinnamon Candy * Cinnamon Spice * Coral Paradise * Coral Tiger * Country Christmas * Country Quilt * Country Sunshine * Devilish * Fantasy Flicker * Fantasy Maker * Fantasy Rainbow * Frosted Mint * Grape Sprinkles * Heavens Pink Angel * Honey Bunny * Hot Shot * Hot Stuff * Irish Darlin * Irish Dimple * Irish Flirt * Irish Whisper * Island Coral * Ivory 'n Pink * Jealous Laughter * Kool Kitty * Lace Reflection * Lacy Angel * Lady Flash * Little Beacon * Midnight Honey * Midnight Love * Misty Rainbow * Neptunes Treasure * Night Secrets * Party Toy * Pink Rumba * Pink Sugar * Pixie Pearl * Pony Ride * Prancing Pony * Raspberry Dazzle * Raspberry Fizz * Red Coins * Red Rummy * Rose Pinafore * Rum Punch * Run-Around Rainbow * Scandal * Seein Spots * Shades Of Autumn * Shades of Midnight * Shimmer Frost * Shy Blue * Silk And Honey * Silver Dust * Silver Sparkles * Silver Swan * Smokey Moon * Smokey Rose * Snow Crystals * Snuggles Big Eyes * Snuggles Blushing Doll * Snuggles Busy Bee * Snuggles Lady Dawn * Snuggles Little Girl * Snuggles Playmate * Snuggles Ragdoll * Snuggles Rising Star * Spring Mist * Super Dooper * Twilight Treasure * Very Berry * Wine Cooler

Alma Hummer, San Antonio, TX

* Florence Walker

Floyd Lawson, Arcadia, CA

* D'Artagnan * Island Dream * Island Princess * Island Romance * Island Skies

Claire Akemann, Pewaukee, WI

* Allegro * Bryce * Dorothy Boyer * Isle of Skye * Janet Ballard * Loch Leven * Misty Mood * Mood Changer * Shari Lou

Barbara Elkin, Auburn, CA

* Day Dreams * Nite Bloomers * Oui Do * Oui Yvonne * Raindance * Rainmaker * Wayward Trail

Marie Burns, Baltimore, MD

* Carousel Lady * Favorite Fantasy * Frilled Flirt * Magic Miss * Party Flirt * Party Print

**NAME RESERVATION
RENEWALS**

Jacqueline Muster, Massillon, OH

* Crystal Raindrops * Shirocka



**Bessie Pyle is shown holding Nortex's Snowk-
Ist Haven, part of the AVSA collection. Other
plants in the collection were French Lilac and
Fogbound. Bessie participated in the Delaware
AVS show, "Violets in the Springtime."**

Photo by Anne Marie Stemnicki

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**MINUTES
THE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
OF AMERICA, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
MARCH 20-25, 1990**

The first session of the Board of Directors' meeting was called to order by President Mary Boland at 9:00 AM on March 20, 1990 in the Whitehill Room of the Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts. The invocation was given by L.T. Ozio, Jr.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. In lieu of a formal roll call, a roster was circulated. Present were Mesdames Boland, Pittman, Riemer, Hayes, Warren, Wells, Hilton, Kemmerling, Landgren, Lombard, Halford, Lages, Owens, Staat, Hall, Whitaker, Merrell, Tinari, Naylor, Goldstein, Wilson, Rexilius, Savage; Ms. Buck; Messr. Bollar, Ozio, Jr., Breden, Foster, Pittman, and Voorhees. A quorum was present.

Courtesy seats were extended to Director Nominees Debbie Griffith, Ann Miller, Sue Ramser and Bill Lyons, and Past President Gene Garner. Christine Sanders, Professional Registered Parliamentarian, was introduced. Times of recess were announced. The standing rules for the meeting and the agenda were adopted.

President Boland appointed Jane Rexilius (chairman), L. T. Ozio, Jr., and Marilyn Goldstein to approve the minutes of this and subsequent sessions of the meeting. Christine Kemmerling was appointed time keeper. Meredith Hall, chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the May 1989 Board of Directors' meeting in Kansas City, reported that the committee approved those minutes.

The Nominating Committee Chairman, Esther Wells, gave the report of the committee, presenting the slate of officers and directors for 1990-91. President Boland announced that the Executive Committee had elected Bill Foster to be chairman of the Nominating Committee for the 1990-91 term. Ruth Warren, Ann Miller, Lynn Lombard and Jane Rexilius were then nominated from the floor and elected to fill the remaining positions on the committee.

The report of the fall meeting of the Executive Committee, held in Beaumont, TX, had been mailed to the Board of Directors. Janet Riemer, Secretary, reported on the meeting of the Executive Committee, held yesterday and the following recommendations were proposed and acted upon:

1. "That a new computer for the Beaumont office be purchased. Cost shall not exceed \$15,000. Purchase shall be made by the Office Manager with the advice and approval of the Finance Chairman. In addition, maintenance contracts should be investigated and one should be purchased, if practical. It is recommended that the Booster Fund publicize this cause and use it as a rallying point for donations." Adopted.

2. "That a pin be made from the winning design in the Theme & Logo Contest, to be sold as a collector's item in 1992, at the suggested price of \$5.00." Adopted.

3. A motion regarding work done on a computer for AVSA was postponed until lunch when it was amended by substitution to state "that the hard copy (paper output) as well as the digital electronic form of data (data files) of work done for AVSA on a computer be the property of AVSA." Adopted.

4. "That dues for individual members and affiliate members be increased to \$15.00 per year." Adopted.

5. "That the issue of the AVM that has been sent to affiliates be eliminated for financial reasons." Lost.

Marilyn Goldstein moved and it was seconded "that affiliates be charged \$5.00 for postage and handling when rosettes are ordered and dues left at the new rate." Three amendments were adopted and the amended motion stated "that affiliates be charged a \$5.00 application fee when rosettes are ordered, effective when published." Adopted.

Janet Riemer, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved the recommendation "that an insertion shall be made in Policies & Procedures that columnists for the AVM should be appointed by the President in consultation with the Editor and the Publication Committee Chairman." There was considerable discussion. A recess was called by President Boland at 10:35 and the meeting was reconvened at 10:55. An amendment moved by J.R. Pittman "that columnists for the AVM shall be appointed by the Publications

Chairman with the approval of the President" was lost and the original motion was adopted.

Janet also moved, on behalf of the Executive Committee, "that AVSA empower the Executive Committee to purchase a headquarters site." Two amendments were adopted, and the amended motion stating "that AVSA empower the Executive Committee, the Finance Chairman, and the Building Site Committee to purchase a headquarters" was then adopted.

The recommendation of the Executive Committee "that AVSA accept the convention manual as a working draft for trial use" was moved by Janet Riemer and adopted.

As there was no objection, the reading of the reports of officers and committee chairmen (which had been submitted and distributed in advance), were dispensed with by general consent.

Charlie Bollar, First Vice President, announced that the 1992 Columbus, Ohio Convention Chairman would be Linda Owens, Convention Co-Vice Chairmen would be Ann Miller and Emilie Savage, Show Chairman would be Thelma Miller, and Show Vice Chairman would be Mary Martin.

Bill Foster, Affiliate Chairman, moved "that AVSA issue charters only to new affiliates." Adopted by general consent.

Esther Wells, Awards Chairman, moved "that Policies & Procedures be changed by deleting the publications awards from Section VII, page 9, #2 and by forming a new item #5 as follows and renumbering the succeeding items:

5. Publications Awards - Paid by Convention but listed as AVSA Awards

Best Yearbook	\$50 and Blue Rosette
2nd Best Yearbook	\$35 and Red Rosette
3rd Best Yearbook	\$25 and White Rosette
4th Best Yearbook	\$10 and Lavender Rosette
Best Newsletter	\$50 and Blue Rosette
2nd Best Newsletter	\$25 and Red Rosette
Best Magazine	\$50 and Blue Rosette
2nd Best Magazine	\$25 and Red Rosette

The motion was adopted.

She also moved on behalf of the Awards Committee, "that Policies and Procedures, Section VII, page 9, #3 concerning Horticultural Perfection Awards be changed as follows:

Best Horticultural Perfection	Blue Rosette
2nd Best Horticultural Perfection	Red Rosette
3rd Best Horticultural Perfection	White Rosette
4th Best Horticultural Perfection	Lavender Rosette

The motion was adopted.

On behalf of the Awards Committee, she also moved "that portions of Policies & Procedures, Section VII, page 9, #2 and #3 be struck and new items #4 and #6 be formed as follows and succeeding items be renumbered:

4. Amateur and Commercial Awards - Paid by Convention but listed as AVSA Awards

Best in Design	
Best New Cultivar	
Ribbons for show exhibits	
6. Badge Identification Ribbons	

The motion was adopted.

Esther also moved "that the first line of Policies & Procedures, Section VII, page 9, #3 be changed from:

Section I - Silver Cup and blue rosette

to:

Commercial Specimen Plant Classes

Best in Show

Silver Cup and Blue Rosette

The motion was adopted.

She also moved "that Policies & Procedures, Section VII, page 6, #3 be changed by deleting the third, fourth, and fifth sentences and #11 be changed as follows:

The names of the recipients of Special Honorary Society Awards and all pertinent information shall be sent to the Editor of the AVM by the appropriate deadline date for publication in the issue specified by the Editor. Information about these awards is to be kept confidential until the awards are presented." Adopted.

Esther also moved "that Policies & Procedures, Section VII, page

6, #8 be changed as follows:

Submit a list of awards to the Editor by the specified deadline date for publication in the issue of the AVM which contains the convention supplement. Submit a list of awards with complete details to the President, Shows and Judges Chairman, Commercial Sales and Exhibits Chairman, Library Chairman, Editor, local Convention Chairman, and Convention Director two months before the convention.

Adopted.

The meeting was recessed at 12:05 for lunch and reconvened at 1:45 PM.

Esther Wells, on behalf of the Awards Committee, moved "that Policies and Procedures, Section II, page 3, be changed from January 1st to November 1st in the paragraph at the top of the page and in #4 under Hall of Fame Award." Adopted.

She moved "that Policies & Procedures, Section II, page 3, #5 under Hall of Fame Award be changed from February 1st to January 1st and from March 1st to February 1st." Adopted.

Esther also moved "that Policies & Procedures, Section VII, page 7, #12 be changed as follows:

10. Cash awards which cannot be awarded, with the exception of those given for specified named varieties, shall be reassigned if time permits or held for use at the next convention at the discretion of the Awards Committee."

Adopted.

She moved "that AVSA provide Best in Class Rosettes and Special Rosettes for the following top awards at convention shows in addition to the existing Society Awards: Best Miniature, Best Semiminiature, Best Standard, Best Trailer, Best Other Gesneriad, Sweepstakes in Horticulture, Sweepstakes Runner-Up in Horticulture, Second Best in Design, Sweepstakes in Design, and Sweepstakes Runner-Up in Design, and that these be added to the appropriate sections of Policies & Procedures, Section VII, page 9, and to the *Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors and Judges*, page 48." Adopted.

As Chairman of the 1989-90 Nominating Committee, Esther Wells moved "to change Policies & Procedures, Section VII, page 40 under Duties of the Chairman by inserting the following as item 5 and renumbering the succeeding items:

5. Prospective Director Nominees shall be asked to provide the names of three references. These references and other appropriate individuals, such as current or previous Board members or AVSA committee members from that region of the country or the affiliate president of the prospective nominee's local or regional group, shall be contacted for additional information before Director Nominees are selected." Adopted.

She also moved "to change Policies & Procedures under Duties of the Chairman by replacing the word 'Resumes' with the word 'Questionnaires' and by replacing 'five years' with 'three years' to read as follows:

6. Questionnaires and references over three years old shall be removed from the file each year and destroyed."

Adopted.

Lastly, Esther moved "to change Policies & Procedures under Duties of the Chairman by replacing the words 'those not previously published' with the words 'all nominees' to read as follows:

The list of nominees of officers shall be printed in the AVM at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting. Pictures and resumes of all nominees shall be included."

Adopted.

Charlie Bollar moved and it was seconded "to discharge the Strategic Planning Committee." Adopted by general consent.

The meeting was recessed at 2:35 PM to reconvene on Wednesday evening.

The second session of the Board of Directors' meeting was called to order by President Mary Boland at 8:10 PM on March 21, 1990. The invocation was given by Hortense Pittman. The roster was circulated and a quorum was present. Additional members present were David Butram and Frank Tinari. A courtesy seat was extended to Joyce Stork. The parliamentarian, Christine Sanders, PRP, was pre-

sented.

Jane Birge, Editor and Typographer, added to her report, followed by Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager. They offered to answer questions from the Board.

Janet Riemer, Vice Chairman of the Building Fund Committee, reported on the meeting of the committee, held earlier in the day. On behalf of the committee, she moved that "the next goal for the Fund shall be \$100,000." Adopted.

Convention Director, DoDe Whitaker, moved "the acceptance of TriState African Violet Council's invitation to host our 1993 AVSA convention and show. This convention to be held at the Sheraton-Lancaster, Lancaster, Pennsylvania." Adopted.

She also moved "the acceptance of the Rocky Mountain African Violet Council to host our 1994 AVSA convention and show. This convention to be held at the Denver Marriott, Denver, Colorado." Adopted.

Frank Tinari, Chairman of the Research Committee, added to his report and moved "that AVSA provide \$1,000 for Dr. Charles Cole to continue research at Texas A & M." Adopted.

He also moved "that AVSA provide \$1,000 for Dr. Jeff Smith, if requested." Adopted. A third proposal was postponed until the meeting of the 1990-91 Board of Directors' meeting on Sunday.

At the 1989 Board of Directors' meeting, a motion had been referred to the Policies & Procedures Committee for further study. Janet Riemer moved, on behalf of the committee, that Section VII, page 1, #2 be changed to read, "It is recommended that when a committee is appointed to revise a manual which involves an existing committee's work, the chairman of the new committee shall share the responsibility with a vice chairman. This vice chairman shall be the chairman of the existing committee." As this was still unclear to some members, the motion was postponed until Sunday.

As there was no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

**MINUTES
THE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
OF AMERICA, INC.
ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 24, 1990**

The annual business meeting of the African Violet Society of America, Inc. was called to order by Third Vice President, L.T. Ozio, Jr. at 3:35 PM on March 24, 1990 in the Terrace Room of the Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts.

The invocation was given by Past President, Anne Tinari. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President, Mary Boland, took the chair. The Secretary declared the presence of a quorum. The standing rules of the meeting were adopted. The parliamentarian, Christine Sanders, PRP, was presented.

Meredith Hall, chairman of the committee to review the 1989 minutes, reported that the minutes had been reviewed and found to be correct before printing.

Resolutions Chairman, Elinor Skelton, read the courtesy resolution and moved that it be adopted.

Esther Wells, Chairman of the 1989-90 Nominating Committee, read the report of the Nominating Committee as published in the *African Violet Magazine*: for President, Mary Boland; First Vice President, Charles Bollar; Second Vice President, Hortense Pittman; Third Vice President, L.T. Ozio, Jr.; Secretary, Janet Riemer; Treasurer, Nancy Hayes; Directors (Three-Year Term), Deborah Griffith, William Lyons, Ann Miller, Sue Ramser, Joyce Stork; and also nominated for Director, to fill the one-year unexpired term, Jim Smith.

There were no further nominations for President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Director (Three Year Term). There were two nominations from the floor for the position of Director (One Year Unexpired Term). Hugh Mackey nominated Ralph Robinson of New York and Gary Beck nominated Anne Jantzen of California. The nominations were closed and there were short nominating speeches for each of the candidates for Director (One Year Unexpired Term). Tellers distributed and collected ballots. While they counted the ballots, the unopposed candidates were duly elected by voice vote. The tellers submitted the tally of the vote for Director (One Year Unexpired

Term) and Ralph Robinson was declared elected. President Mary Boland announced that the installation would take place at the banquet later in the evening.

Barbara Elkin, 1991 Convention Chairman, invited all to attend the convention in Santa Clara, California next year.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.

MINUTES
THE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
OF AMERICA, INC.
1990-91 BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
MARCH 25, 1990

The meeting of the 1990-91 Board of Directors was called to order by President Mary Boland at 10:10 AM in the Whitehill Room of the Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts. The invocation was given by Bill Foster. Circulation of the roster indicated the absence of Palma Trapp. A quorum was present.

A courtesy seat was extended to Past President Gene Garner. The parliamentarian, Christine Sanders, PRP, was presented.

The time of recess for lunch was announced and both the standing rules for the meeting, and the agenda were adopted.

President Mary Boland appointed Jane Rexilius (chairman), L.T. Ozio, Jr., and Marilyn Goldstein to approve the minutes of this meeting. Sue Ramser was appointed timekeeper.

Chairmen of standing committees for the 1990-91 term were announced by the President. New appointments were:

Affiliate - Irene Merrell

Cumulative Index - Bob Green

Nominating - Bill Foster

Pre-Convention Coordinator-No appointee at this time

Shows & Judges - Bill Foster

New chairmen of special committees for the 1990-91 term were announced as follows:

Bylaws - J.R. Pittman

Courtesy - Anna Marie Mays

Resolutions - Elinor Skelton

The motion postponed from Wednesday evening proposing a change in the Policies & Procedures was presented again with the following substitution: "It is recommended that when a committee is appointed to revise a manual dealing with another committee's area of responsibility, the chairman of the revision committee appoint as a vice chairman, the chairman of the affected committee." The substitute was adopted.

Anne Tinari, Chairman of Membership & Promotion, moved "that AVSA publish a one-sided culture sheet incorporating an AVSA membership application, to be sold in lots of 1,000 for \$10.00 postpaid." Adopted.

She also moved, on behalf of the committee, "that AVSA exchange membership lists with the American Orchid Society; this exchange to be on a one-time basis and with the assurance that the AOS will not sell nor distribute the AVSA list to any other entity." Adopted.

The proposal from the Research Committee, postponed from Wednesday evening was voted upon. It was moved by Frank Tinari "that AVSA provide \$3,500 for Professor Karen Hughes at the University of Tennessee." Adopted.

A letter had been received in the office from a Russian official with several proposals. It was moved by Marilyn Goldstein, seconded and adopted to discuss the Russian letter. After considerable discussion, Janet Riemer moved "the appointment of a special committee to study the proposals from the Russians." Two amendments were adopted changing the original motion to "the appointment of a special committee to investigate international overtures regarding our society, commencing with the Russian proposals." The amended motion was adopted. Marilyn Goldstein moved "to discuss a time frame as to how and when this committee is to report to the Board." This was postponed until after lunch.

Another letter sent to the office was from the Garden Club of America. It requested permission to use material from the *Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors, and Judges*. It too, was postponed until after lunch.

The meeting was recessed at 11:50 AM.

When the meeting was reconvened, Marilyn Goldstein withdrew her recently made motion. Janet Riemer moved "that the special committee to investigate international overtures be called the International Committee and that it be charged with the following responsibilities:

1. Prepare a letter to the Russians within two weeks for the President's signature stating that their proposals were presented to the AVSA Board of Directors and a special committee was appointed to study the proposals;

2. Study each proposal and draw up recommendations. Present them to the Executive Committee by their 1990 fall meeting;

3. The Executive Committee will vote, respond to the Russians and report to the Board at the 1991 convention;

4. Any subsequent proposals which may be submitted to AVSA may be dealt with in a similar manner." The motion was seconded and adopted. Those appointed to serve on the committee were L.T. Ozio, Jr. (chairman), Debbie Griffith and Joan Halford.

Rita Hilton presented a motion regarding the request of the Garden Club of America. She moved "that the office manager respond to the correspondence from the Garden Club of America, referring their request to the National Council of Garden Clubs, with whom we are affiliated." Adopted by general consent.

Esther Wells moved "that AVSA provide a rosette award for the best plant from all the display tables in the Commercial Division and that this award be added to Policies & Procedures, Section VII, page 9, #3, and that this award be added to the *Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors, and Judges*." Adopted by general consent.

Charlie Bollar, Chairman of the Salary Committee, announced that the committee recommended no increases this year.

Jane Rexilius, Chairman of the Publications Committee, moved on behalf of the committee "that the AVM Editor, Jane Birge, be retained for one year." Adopted by general consent.

She also moved on behalf of the committee "that the agreement between AVSA and Publishing Today be renewed for one year." Adopted by general consent.

She also moved on behalf of the committee "that the agreement between AVSA and Becker Printing Company be renewed for one year." Adopted by general consent.

Wynne Voorhees, Finance Chairman, presented the revised budget. After discussion on several line items, the budget was adopted.

Wynne moved and it was seconded "that Policies & Procedures, Section III, page 1 and page 3 be changed by adding *mutual funds* to the list of acceptable investment vehicles." Adopted.

To keep membership dues consistent, he moved "that international regular and affiliate dues be increased to \$17.00, effective upon publication." Adopted.

It was moved by Wynne and seconded "that before June 30, 1990, the Convention Director supply the AVSA office with the following:

1. List and complete description of all reports to be generated by the AVSA office for convention registration,
2. Schedule and timing of such reports,
3. Distribution list of the reports."

The motion was adopted.

Esther Wells moved and it was seconded "that convention week be shortened by moving the Board of Directors' meeting back to Wednesday instead of Tuesday, effective with the Santa Clara convention, if the change can be negotiated with the convention hotel." Adopted.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:05 PM.

Janet T. Riemer, Secretary

Committee to Approve the Minutes

Jane Rexilius, Chairman

L.T. Ozio, Jr.

Marilyn Goldstein

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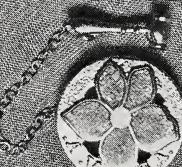
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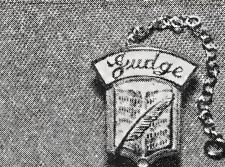
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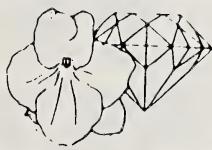
RESERVOIR INNER POT

AFRICAN VIOLETS OF SPOKANE

P. O. BOX 52

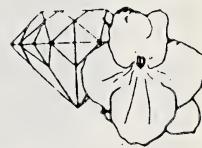
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VERADALE, WA 99037-0052



GEMCRAFT VIOLETRY

P. O. Box 6558
Annapolis, MD 21401-0558
(301) 261-8270



BRIGHTEN UP THIS FALL AND WINTER WITH SOME GORGEOUS NEW VARIETIES!

SHIPPING ENDS OCT. 31ST. WE STILL HAVE A GOOD SELECTION OF THE BEST VARIETIES FROM A FINE GROUP OF HYBRIDIZERS.
OPEN YEAR ROUND FOR THOSE IN OUR AREA. SPEND THE DAY AND VISIT HISTORIC ANNAPOLIS AND THE U. S. NAVAL ACADEMY.
COME SEE US BY APPOINTMENT AND PICK YOUR OWN BEAUTIES. PLEASE CALL FOR DIRECTIONS AND A TIME CONVENIENT TO US
BOTH. CHOOSE ANY PLANTS OR LEAVES FROM OUR CATALOG, FROM PREVIOUS ADVERTISEMENTS, OR WE WILL SELECT OUR
FAVORITES FOR YOU.

NYLON WICK 10¢ PER FOOT POSTPAID WITH VIOLET ORDER OR ADD \$1.00 FOR POSTAGE IF ORDERED SEPARATELY

PLANTS \$3.25 - Catalog - \$1.00 Refundable 1st order — LEAVES still 75¢

SHIPPING COSTS EACH \$3.50 UP TO 6 PLANTS OR 15 LEAVES - ADD 25¢ FOR EACH EXTRA PLANT OR 5 LEAVES
UPS SECOND DAY AIR ADD \$3.50 ADDITIONAL PER ORDER - RECOMMENDED WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI - NO OVERSEAS SHIPPING

Cobblestone Violets

(Order direct from this ad for fall shipping)

Apache Blanket
Apache Canyon
Apache Celebration
Autumn Halo
Belle Lurette
Borneo
Covenant Class
Crimson Ember
Cobalt Halo
Dancing Halo
Denim Halo
Designer Genes
Flash Cat
Fantaisite Magique
Flying Proud

Frosted Whisper
Green Go
Guytano
Gentle Breezes
S/C Garden Party
Heir Apparent
Hot Tomato
Indian Corn
Jersey Sunset
Jingles
Lacy Lady
Lavande Royale
Louise Croteau
Magic Halo
Mandolin

Midway
Mindi Brooke
Mindi's Dream
Mauve Organdy
Nortex's Radiant Haven
Nortex's Razmataz Haven
Outrage
Painted Sails
Party Animal
Partly Cloudy
Peach Puff
Plenty of Pepper
Quilting Bee
Royal Pleasure
Ruth's Halo

Risen Star
Sedona
Sugar Harvest
Strawberry Ripple
Tooch
Tiger's Son
Twilight Halo
Timide
Texas Blue Angel
Vampire's Kiss
Velvet Halo
Wr. Bluebonnet Gal
Wr. Pink Patches
Wr. Winter Memories

Virginia and Jack Martz
323 N. Main
Greeley, KS 66033
913-867-2920
Visitors by appointment
Club inquiries welcome

Plants from this ad \$2.25
Leaves .75
Shipping UPS \$3.50
2nd Day Air \$4.50
Shipping thru October

CAPE COD VIOLETRY



WE CARRY ALL THE SPECIES AND THE ORIGINAL 10,
also CHIMERAS. Latest releases from JEANNETTE'S JESNERIADS, RALPH ROBINSON, SUSAN'S VIOLETS, LYON, HORTENSE, GRANGER GARDENS, FREDETTE, WASMUND, WRANGLERS and much more. Catalog \$1.00 refundable with order. Overseas catalog \$2.00. Gifts, Cards, Notes, Paper Goods and Jewelry available.

PLASTIC FLOWER POTS

3"-3 1/2"-4" round tubs have rolled rims

SIZE	COLOR	TYPE	10	25	50	100	500
1-1/4"	Wt. (only)	Thumb Pot	\$ 1.20	\$ 2.75	\$ 4.80	\$ 9.00	\$ 41.50
2-1/4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	.95	1.80	3.30	6.00	26.40
2-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	1.05	1.95	3.60	6.60	30.00
3"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.20	2.75	4.80	9.00	41.50
3-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.35	3.30	6.00	11.40	52.00
4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.75	3.85	7.20	13.50	59.40
4-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.40	5.60	8.00	15.50	73.00
5"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.70	5.90	11.40	20.75	94.00
6"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	3.40	8.20	15.00	27.70	125.00
6-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	3.80	8.60	16.80	30.50	132.00

MINIATURIZING MINI POTS WITH SAUCER

1-1/4"	Terracotta	3.00	6.25	11.50	20.00	80.00
3-3/4"	Gr. only	Rd. Tub	2.85	6.60	12.50	22.50

PLASTIC HEAVY DUTY POT SAUCERS

3-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	1.35	3.30	6.00	11.40
4"	Gr. or Wt.	2.25	5.25	9.00	16.80
5"	Gr. or Wt.	2.65	5.85	11.10	20.75
6"	Gr. or Wt.	3.60	8.60	15.80	29.00

PLASTIC WICK WATER RESERVOIRS

(recessed snap-on-lids) 16 oz	3.00	7.15	13.20	24.00	105.00
(wicks not included) 32 oz	4.70	11.00	21.25	39.60	162.50

PLASTIC LABELS

	100	500	1000
3" White, Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Lavender, Pink.	1.00	4.75	7.00
4" White, Green, Blue, Lavender, Pink.	1.25	5.75	10.00
5" White, Lavender.	1.50	7.00	13.00
4 1/2" White only	2.00	9.00	17.00

PLASTIC HANGING PLANTERS

	1	5	10	25	50
4-1/2"	Wt. (only)	3" Deep	.70	3.10	5.60
5-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	3-1/8" Deep	.90	4.20	7.80
6"	Gr. or Wt.	4-1/4" Deep	1.05	5.10	9.70
8"	Gr. or Wt.	5" Deep	1.30	6.30	12.00
10"	Gr. or Wt.	6-1/4" Deep	1.80	8.70	16.80

PERMANEST TRAYS - Light Green - No Holes

	1	6	12	25	50
4" x 8" x 2-1/2"	.75	4.25	8.00		
8" x 8" x 2-1/2"	1.25	7.25	13.75		
8" x 12" x 2-1/2"	1.35	7.50	13.80		
22" x 11" x 2-3/4"	3.99	23.00	45.00		
13" x 15" x 3-1/2"	4.25	24.50	48.00		

PLASTIC TRAYS - No Holes

25-1/2" x 13-1/2" x 3-3/16"	Gr. or Wt.	3.25	18.50	35.00	67.00
Elisa's African Violet Rings					
Mini (6")	Gr. only	.90	4.75	8.50	16.25

9"	Gr. only	1.00	5.00	9.00	17.50
13"	Gr. only	1.25	6.50	11.50	19.75

FREDETTE'S ALLEGRO Plant Tonic

Excellent for starting leaves and small plants.
Use 3 tsp. per gal. water. 4 oz. bottle - \$2.75 each;
3 for \$7.50; 6 for \$13.50; 12 for \$25.00.

1 gal. (for large growers) \$34.00 each.

PH METER - \$19.00

PLASTIC TERRARIUM

12" Diameter - \$6.75 each

White - Brown - Beige - Terra-cotta

SWIFT'S "MOIST-RITE" PLANTER

White - Green - Black

\$3.85 each - 6/18.00 - 12/32.00 - 24/54.00

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS:

Supplies - UPS \$3.25

Supplies - Parcel Post \$5.50

All other Countries - Actual Cost

Mass. residents include 5% Sales Tax

Please include STREET or ROAD, Zip Code & Phone #

Prices subject to change without notice.

John & Barbara Cook
Dept. AV 28 Minot St.
(508) 548-2798

Falmouth, Massachusetts 02540

BATEMAN'S BOUNTY 6-2-2
8 oz. - \$2.99
16 oz. - \$5.25

STURDY
4 oz. - \$2.99
8 oz. - \$5.25

PLANT DINNER
8 oz. BOUNTY,
4 oz. STURDY +
Mixer Dispenser Bottle
\$6.35

PHYSAN 20
16 oz. - \$5.95
32 oz. - \$9.95
1 gal. - 29.95

OYAMA PLANTERS
Green, Brown or White
4" - \$1.49 each
5" - \$1.99 each
5-1/2" - \$2.99 each
6" - \$3.50 each (Wh. only)

SUPERTHRIVE
1/2 oz. - \$1.59
1 oz. - \$2.39
2 oz. - \$3.39
4 oz. - \$5.39

ORTHENE
75% Soluble Powder
1 lb. - \$15.50

AEROSOL SPRAYS
PT 1300 Orthene
18 oz. - \$9.50
Knox-Out PT 1500A
16 oz. - \$5.95

I LOVE AFRICAN VIOLETS
BUMPER STICKERS - \$1

Formula	Type	Size/Price
12-36-14	African Violet Special	4 oz. 12 oz. \$3.00
5-50-17	Variegated Special	1.20 3.25
15-16-17	Peat-Lite Special	1.20 2.50
20-20-20	General Purpose	4 oz. 16 oz. 2.50
15-30-15	House Plant Special	1.20 2.50
Dolomite Limestone		2 lbs./\$1.50
Charcoal	No. 4 Coarse	20 oz. 40 oz. 2.75
	No. 6 Medium	1.50 3.50
Vermiculite	No. 2 Coarse	5 qts. 16 qts. 4.00
Perlite	Coarse	1.50 3.50
Long Fibered Sphagnum Moss		8 qts./\$2.75
TROY Capillary watering mat	— a full 4 feet wide	
	\$2.25 per running yard — whole yard lengths	



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AFRICAN VIOLETS
THE GREEN THUMB**
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Loveland, CO 80537
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20 leaves	13.50
50 leaves	22.50
6 starters	14.85
12 starters	23.00
18 starters	34.00

ABOVE OFFERS ARE MY CHOICE. ALL LABELED AND DIFFERENT.
Order from this ad or send 50¢ for complete list. Colo. res. add 3%
sales tax. Shipping costs \$3.50 via priority mail. UPS Second Day Air
add 50¢ per leaf order or 25¢/plant to basic shipping.

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Featuring Hybrid Saintpaulias
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Receive 5 Little Jewels® violets direct from Holtkamp. The Mini-Well™ reservoirs in attractive clear plastic and fertilizer are included. These minis are easy to grow with their own water supply. You can receive an air-freight shipment of 5 plants with reservoirs for only \$29.95 postpaid. Teas catalog has light tubes, potting mixes, pots, wicking and Texas hybridized violets plus orchid and bromeliad supplies.

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Large hand-painted porcelain pin with pink, blue, purple, or your favorite African Violet design. Your name will be permanently printed on it. Send a check of \$10 (US) for each pin or send a SASE for a FREE color brochure to:

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Add sales tax (NY State Residents only)

China on China

Lily



6-8 weeks for delivery
actual size

MARY E. GALL
913-642-4357
LIST \$1.00

MARY'S VIOLET



JOY

3200 W. 82nd Terrace
Leawood, Kansas 66206

SPECIALIZING IN STANDARDS, MINS & TRAILERS OF PROVEN SHOW QUALITY

FALL MINI SALE - 4 MINIS - MY CHOICE - \$13.00 POSTPAID

Selections from 1990 Pittman, Robinson, and other recent varieties.

1990 LYNDON LYON MINIS - LEAVES ONLY \$1.25 + SHIPPING \$3.50 - Elfin Honey, Irish Pearl, Lil Pink Cameo, Pixie Elf, Rose Cherub, Spotted Pony, Snuggles Blue Pearl, Snuggles Snow Baby

1990 LYNDON LYON STANDARDS - LEAVES ONLY \$1.25 + SHIPPING \$3.50 - Blueberry Topping, Drifted Snow, Irish Kiss, Lady Heartbreaker, Purple Passion, Purrfect Love, Wine on Ice, Shades of Spring
MINI POTS

MINI POTS

MINI POTS

OS Plastic A/S. Denmark 5.5A 2-1/8" x 1-3/4" Terracotta

Outstanding mini pot; soft rim won't cut petioles; flat base. 100 5.5A pots - \$9.00 POSTPAID

Violet Express



*"Superior violets
expressly for you!"*

! EXTRA ! FALL SPECIAL ! EXTRA ! FALL SPECIAL ! EXTRA !

HELP! I need violet lovers to adopt LARGE starter plants for winter beauty and enjoyment. Those not finding loving homes must go to the Great Violet Heaven as my shelves must be emptied to make room for next year's babies.

LARGE STARTER PLANTS, OUR CHOICE, \$2.00 EACH, PLUS SHIPPING

You may specify your preference in bloom color, size, style, and foliage. I will do my best to follow your directions, subject to availability. All varieties will be marked and not duplicated in your order.

If you have ordered from The Violet Express this year, your order will be checked to avoid duplication of previously ordered varieties.

YOUR CHOICE, \$2.50 EACH, PLUS SHIPPING

If ordering "your choice" list plenty of acceptable substitutes as we are sold out of a number of varieties listed in my catalog.

Note: These special prices do not include the 1990 Nolan Blansit releases.

***** ALL CHIMERAS ARE \$10.00 EACH - A LIMITED SELECTION AVAILABLE *****

Minimum order \$12.00 plus shipping (\$4.00 for regular UPS or \$8.50 for UPS 2nd day air service.)

Plants are well established in 2-1/2" pots, wicked, and all are show-quality varieties, both old and new, by leading American and Canadian hybridizers.

Over 500 varieties FULLY DESCRIBED in my 1990 catalog - \$1.50

Shipping through October, weather permitting. Your orders are expertly wrapped and packed with TLC.

GENOLA B. COX
1441 Everett Road
Eagle River, WI 54521 (715) 479-3099

Visit my "growing family" in the beautiful Northwoods of Wisconsin.

Open Tues. thru Sat., 10-4. Closed Sun. & Mon.

PLASTIC FLOWER POTS

Inch Size	Color	Type	10	20	50	100	500
2-1/4	Wh or Gr	RS or SQ	1.00	1.75	4.00	6.75	27.00
2-1/4	Black	Square	1.00	1.75	4.00	6.75	27.00
2-1/2	Wh or Gr	RS or SQ	1.20	2.00	4.30	7.40	30.00
2-1/2	Black	Square	1.20	2.00	4.30	7.40	30.00

Quantities of White and Green 2-1/4" and 2-1/2" SQUARES may be limited. Please indicate on your order if black is acceptable.

3	Wh/Gr	RS/RT/SQ	1.50	2.70	6.00	11.00	50.00
3-1/2	Wh/Gr	RT or SQ	1.75	3.10	7.30	13.00	58.00
4	Wh/Gr	RS/RT/SQ	2.10	3.70	8.30	15.50	70.00
4-1/2	Wh/Gr	RS/RT/SQ	2.35	4.20	9.25	17.00	79.00
5	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	2.75	5.10	11.75	20.75	93.00
6	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	3.35	5.90	14.00	26.00	
6-1/2	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	3.90	6.90	15.75	29.00	
7	Wh/Gr	RS	6.30	11.95	28.00		
8	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	6.90	13.10	31.00		

NOTE: The RT of the 3", 3-1/2", & 4" has a good round edge. Due to cost of shipping large quantities of 6", 6-1/2", 7", & 8" please write for special quotes for ordering amounts not listed.

MOIST-RITE PLANTERS

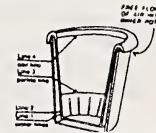
The attractively designed, double wall planters provide self-watering. Colors are: white, light green, and black.

Single Planter	\$ 4.00
Six Planters	20.00
Twelve Planters	35.00
Twenty-four Planters	58.00



OYAMA PLANTERS

Available in white & green the pots are:
4 inches across the top \$1.49
5-1/2 inches across the top 2.99



PLASTIC PAN POTS

Very shallow — depth is about 1/2 the width

Inch Size	Color	10	20	50	100	250
5	Wh or Gr	3.00	5.75	13.50	24.00	55.00
6	Wh or Gr	3.90	7.50	17.00	32.00	75.00
6-1/2	Wh or Gr	4.15	8.00	18.50	35.00	86.00
8	Wh or Gr	6.25	11.50	27.00	52.00	126.00
10	Wh or Gr	9.75	18.25	43.50	83.00	203.00

SNAP-ON SAUCERS to fit PANS

Pan Size	Color	10	20	50	100	Clear Saucers Size	10
5"	W/G	1.30	2.40	5.50	9.50	6"	\$2.75
6"	W/G	1.65	3.10	7.50	12.50	7"	4.30
6.5"	W/G	2.15	4.00	9.50	18.00	8"	5.10
8"	W/G	2.45	5.25	13.00	22.00	9"	6.40
10"	W/G	4.75	9.25	22.50	42.00	10"	7.30
						11"	10.25
						12"	11.75

SEEDS

AFRICAN VIOLETS - from the Nadeau Seed Company
Packet: 100 seeds & directions \$4.75
Kit: 100 seeds, directions, container, pellet medium 5.25
Your choice: #1 - Rainbow Wonders (standard);
#2 - Little Gems (minis); #3 - Autumn Fanciee (variegated);
#4 - Trailintrigue (trailers).

SINNINGIAS - from Jeanie Moe

Packet: 100 seeds & directions \$3.75
Kit: 100 seeds, directions, container, medium 4.25
Your choice: #A - Purple; #B - Maroon; #C - Pink;
#D - Mix; #E - MicroMini (Purple & White).
(See our catalog.)

YOUR REQUEST FOR OUR FREE CATALOGUE WILL BE ANSWERED BY RETURN MAIL!

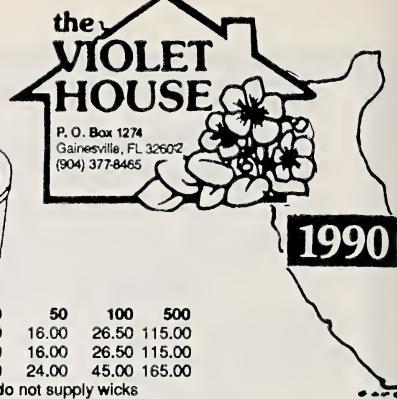
MINIMUM ORDER \$7.50 PLUS SHIPPING
Florida Customers Must Add 6% Sales Tax

Send Orders to:

The Violet House
P. O. Box 1274
Gainesville, Florida 32602
Phone (904) 377-8465
No collect calls

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48 States (United Parcel Service) \$3.25
If C.O.D., UPS charges additional 3.30
Hawaii and Alaska (U.S. Postal Service) 5.50
All other areas charged actual cost.



BETTY'S VIOLET ROOM

Newest Varieties - featuring Hortense, Lyon, Fredette, Wrangler, Skagit & other leading hybridizers.

12 leaves labeled (my choice) \$3.00

25 leaves labeled (my choice) \$5.00

40 leaves labeled (my choice) \$7.50

Starter plants (my choice) 50¢ ea + \$3.50 postage
(min order \$10.00) USA shipping only.

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Thanks to "G-T-S" I just won my first Best in Show award! I tell everyone, "If you don't have this book, you aren't growing violets to their full potential." Mrs. M.L. Horne

(Includes unique chapter on "Miniaturizing The Miniatures")

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Illustrated - 112 pages
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Every time you water,
Every thing you grow."



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Every thing you grow."



Available at leading Garden Centers and Plant Departments
Garden Clubs: SEND FOR OUR FUND RAISING OFFER

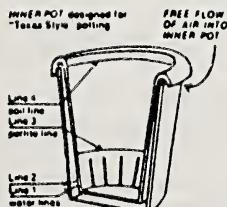
Schultz Co. 14090 Riverport Drive, Maryland Heights, MO 63043

PATCHES AND POTS

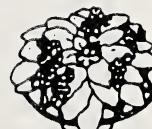
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El Cajon, CA 92020
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SUPPORT RINGS AND OYAMA PLANTERS

OYAMA 'TEXAS STYLE' PLANTERS®



1. Little or no watering skill required.
2. High quality, shatter proof plastic with textured finish.
3. Approved for shows by African Violet Society



1. Keeps leaves from getting cut on pot edges.
2. Plants cannot hug pot.
3. Show plants are easier to train.



PLASTIC RESERVOIRS
available for the
Miniaturizing Mini Pot

BUSINESSES AND CLUBS SEND FOR WHOLESALE PRICE LIST.

MASTERCARD and VISA accepted

Retail List Available

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FEED & WATER ALL YOUR HOUSE PLANTS!

ONLY \$15.99 EACH

Fits any faucet. Just twist on to water away. Treads 100 feet around the house to reach all your hanging and floor plants... easily, safely with no spilling, no dripping. No endless refilling of watering cans. Lightweight, durable vinyl... with extra adapters included.

- Exclusive Fertilizer Proportioner Bottle.
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- Exclusive positive-lock aerator adaptor.
- Large, easy-grip, lightweight handle.
- Sure and easy on/off push button.
- Regulates water flow from trickle to stream.
- 5 foot rugged, break-resistant vinyl hose.
- Regulate water temperature at faucet.
- Eliminates splashes, drips, spills.
- Full one year warranty on parts and labor.

Aquematic
Hose \$15.99
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FREE - PLANT SUPPLY CATALOG
Pots...All Sizes, Mini Wells, Transparent Reservoirs - 10 Colors, Light Fixtures & much more.
Send 2 Stamps Postage.

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OVER 800 VARIETIES
FALL SHIPPING NOW!

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The House of Violets

Charlyne and Ralph Reed

936 Garland St., SW - Dept. 990
Camden, Arkansas 71701 - Ph. 501-836-3016
"MOIST-RITE" PLANTER

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Circle color desired
Green White Black
Single planter \$ 4.25 ppd.
Carton of 6 20.00 ppd.
Carton of 12 35.95 ppd.
Carton of 24 61.00 ppd.

Prices subject to change without notice

Fall 1990

MINIATURES AND SEMIMINIATURES

NESS	Snow Fun, Snow Bunny, Tutti Frutti, Redflash, Angels Eyes, Angel Blush
HOBBS	Dean's Kitten, Dean's New Dawn, Dean's Twinkle, Dean's Whisper, Dean's Cupid, Dean's Wildfire
PITTMAN	Tipped Honey, Pat Champagne, Snow Girl, Swing Along, Wichita Baby, Pride of Columbus
ROBINSON	Rob's Dylan Ross, Rob's Silver Spook, Rob's Vanilla Pink, Rob's Sundae Scoop, Rob's Blue Moon.
SORANO	Irish Flirt, Snuggles Busy Bee, Snuggles Tiny Baby, Little Stormy, Irish Pearl.

TRAILERS

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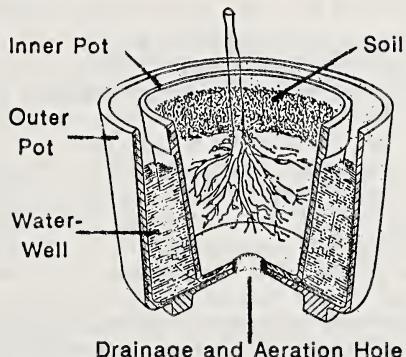
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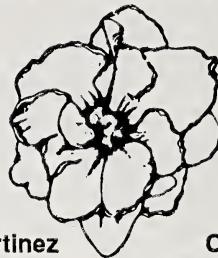
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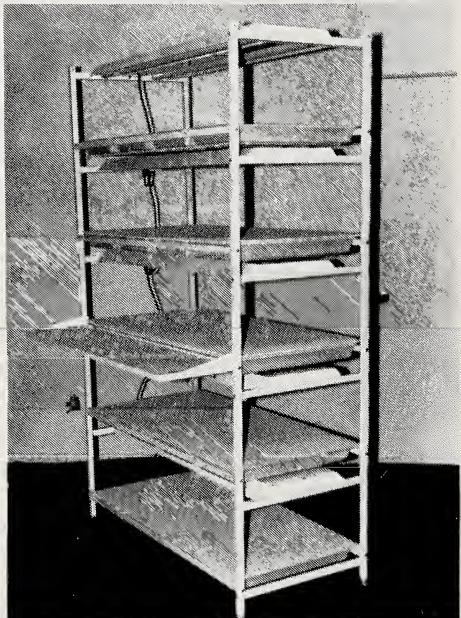
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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 43 Number 6 November · December 1990



Strictly Business — Your Business

INFORMATION FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY TO ENSURE GOOD SERVICE. IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM, SEND EACH ITEM TO THE CORRECT PERSON. ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

MEMBERSHIP

AVSA Membership: Send check payable to AVSA for new or renewable membership to AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704 - phone 409-839-4725. Life - \$175; Commercial USA - \$25, Commercial International - \$27; Individual - \$15.00, USA only. All other countries \$17.00. Remit in U.S. Dollars with draft or check on a New York, USA Bank. See Membership Application on page 1.

AFFILIATES: Chapter - \$15.00; Council, State or Region - \$30. Please complete the form received with your renewal notice and return to AVSA office with affiliate dues check..

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION: Send ideas, offers to help, requests for assistance to Anne Tinari, 2325 Valley Rd., Box 190, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

AFFILIATES: For information on shows, awards, how to organize a chapter or membership questions, write Irene Merrell, W 283 Hillendale Dr., Oconomowoc, WI 53066.

AVSA OFFICE: Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont TX 77704, 409-839-4725. Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

BEST VARIETIES: HONOR ROLL COMPILER: Rita Hilton, 2295 W. Helen Circle, Bartow, FL 33830.

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BOOSTER FUND: Send contributions to Ruth Warren, P. O. Box 3664, Fall River, MA 02722.

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BUILDING FUND: Send contributions to Nell-Sue Tyson, 2030 E. Amherst Ave., Denver, CO 80210.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: Mr. David Buttram, P. O. Box 193, Independence, MO 64051.

COMMERCIAL SALES & EXHIBITS: For information on convention entries or sales room, contact J. R. Pittman, 12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233.

CONVENTION AWARDS: Jan. issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Esther Wells, 948 Fair Oaks Court, Liberty, MO 64068 by Sept. 1.

CONVENTION PROGRAM: Jan. issue. Send special requests for workshop programs; suggest names of interesting speakers to Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Leeward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953. If interested in sponsoring a national convention in your area, contact Convention Director.

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100 to 400	\$6.50
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JUDGES DUPLICATE CARD: Send self-addressed stamped envelope to Bill Foster, 3610 Gray Dr., Mesquite, TX 75150.

JUDGING SCHOOL: To register a judging school, send request to Elinor Skelton, 3910 Larchwood Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041.

LIBRARY: Order AVSA slide programs and packets from AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. List in July issue. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate, write Mr. L. T. Ozio, Jr., 1009 Ditch Avenue, Morgan City, LA 70380.

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EDITOR: Jane Birge, P. O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704, Office, 409-835-6008.

ARTICLES by Members & Columnists: Send to Editor.

COMING EVENT NOTICES: Send to Editor.

DEADLINES - Articles & Notices: Jan. issue - Oct. 1; Mar. issue - Dec. 1; May issue - Feb. 1; July issue - Apr. 1; Sept. issue - June 1; Nov. issue - Aug. 1.

ADVERTISING MANAGER: Advertising rates & copy info: Meredith Hall, 922 E. 14th St., Houston, TX 77009, 713-869-0102.

DEADLINES - ADS: Jan. issue - Nov. 1; Mar. issue - Jan. 1; May issue - Mar. 1; July issue - May 1; Sept. issue - July 1; Nov. issue - Sept. 1. ONLY currently paid Commercial Members may advertise.

AFFILIATE 'APPENINGS: Send to Lyndall Owens, P. O. Box 288, Beaumont, TX 77704.

BACK ISSUES: Complete your set now. Request price list of available issues from Beaumont office.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Send new address at least 30 days before it is to take effect, along with old address, to AVSA office.

FAILURE TO RECEIVE: Notify AVSA office in Beaumont.

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MASTER VARIETY LIST: Number 5 (1990) \$12.95 postpaid. Describes all varieties registered to December 1990 - all recognized species, and non-registered cultivars introduced from July 1983 to December 1990. MVL is looseleaf and requires BINDER. Order both from Beaumont office.

MVL BINDER: 3-ring, two pockets, deep burgundy - \$6.95

MVL SUPPLEMENTS: will be published in the AVM. Send any correction and/or description of new cultivars with hybridizer's name to Master Variety List Chairman. Back supplements (1984 to 1989) available from AVSA Office for \$1.50 each.

MVL COMPUTER DISKETTES: 1990 MVL - \$75.00. For 1991 and 1992 Updates (when available) - \$15.00. For computer compatibility requirements, see page 44 of this issue.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS: Sent to Associate Members and New Members, only. Members renewing, receive card on white protective cover of AVM.

MINIATURE & SEMIMINIATURE VARIETY LIST: Available at AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Price, \$4.00 postpaid.

SUPPLEMENTS FOR MINI LIST: Send Self-addressed stamped envelope to Beaumont office.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE: AVSA Secretary, Mrs. Janet T. Riemer, 256 Pennington-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534.

PLANT REGISTRATION: Iris Keating, 149 Loretto Court, Claremont, CA 91711.

RESEARCH: Send suggested projects for scientific research, or names of interested, qualified potential research personnel to Frank Tinari, 2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

SHOW ENTRY TAGS: 100 - \$4.75 ppd. Order from AVSA Office.

AVSA EMBLEMS, WATCHES AND TOTE BAGS: Available from AVSA Office. Look for ad page with ordering information and prices in this magazine.



African Violet

MAGAZINE

Vol. 43 Number 6

November/December 1990

Every attempt is made to keep articles technically correct. Since the growing of fine African violets can be achieved in many ways, the methods and opinions expressed by writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of AVSA.

ON THE COVER — Ness' Viking Maiden — from the display table at the 1990 AVSA Boston Convention, of Midland Violets, Jean Ness, White Bear Lake, MN.

(Cover photo by Bob Howard / Photography Unlimited, Mansfield, MA)

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

African Violet Society of America, Inc.

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Membership runs one year from date paid and includes 6 issues of the African Violet Magazine. Check membership desired.

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*The Official Publication of the
African Violet Society
of America, Inc.,
a nonprofit organization*

OFFICERS

MARY BOLAND, President

6415 Wilcox Ct., Alexandria, VA 22310

A. CHARLES BOLLAR, 1st Vice President

F32030 P.O. Box 44209, Cincinnati, OH 45244

MRS. J. R. PITTMAN, 2nd Vice President

12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233

L. T. OZIO, Jr., 3rd Vice President

1009 Ditch Ave., Morgan City, LA 70380

MRS. JANET T. RIEMER, Secretary

392 Penn.-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534

WYNNE VOORHEES, Treasurer

857 Fillmore Ave., New Orleans, LA 70124

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

MRS. FRED YOUNG

6109 Shadow Mountain Dr., Austin, TX 78731

EDITOR EMERITUS

MRS. GRACE FOOTE

211 Allien Place, Port Arthur, TX 77642

STAFF

JANE BIRGE, Editor

P.O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704

MRS. MEREDITH HALL, Adv. Mgr.

922 East 14th St., Houston, TX 77009

NANCY LAWRENCE, Office Manager

P.O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704

JANE REXILIUS, Publications Chairman

5634 Yarwell, Houston, TX 77096

COLUMNISTS

David Buttrum, Irene Merrell, Florence Naylor, Ruth Warren, Bill Foster, Jim Smith, Nancy Lawrence, Georgene Albrecht, L. T. Ozio, Jr., Marlene Buck, Iris Keating, Nell-Sue Tyson, Lyndall Owens, Marilyn Goldstein

BEST VARIETIES, HONOR ROLL COMPILER:

Rita Hilton, 2295 W. Helen Cir., Bartow, FL 33830

TALLY TIME COMPILER:

Anna Jean Landgren, 810 Ingleside Place, Evanston, IL 60201

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ADVERTISER'S INDEX

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Manager giving complete details.

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If an advertiser is found irresponsible, they will be refused future ads.

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60. Worm Factory

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From the President's Desk



Dear AVSA Members,

This is the time of the year when we are readying ourselves for the coming holiday season, beginning with Thanksgiving. Let us take a few moments and give thanks for all the joy and friends our lovely African violet gives us throughout the year.

I would like to call your attention to the following actions taken at the Boston convention by the AVSA Board of Directors:

To issue Charters only to new Affiliates. According to the Webster Dictionary, a charter is a document issued by a governing power, authorizing an organization to establish a local chapter.

An invitation from the Tri-State African Violet Society to host the 1993 convention in Lancaster, Pennsylvania was approved.

The Rocky Mountain African Violet Council of Denver, issued an invitation to host the 1994 convention — this too was approved by the board.

If you haven't read the Minutes of the board meetings in Boston, why not take a few minutes now and read them.

Two resignations have been recently accepted. Nancy Hayes has resigned as AVSA Treasurer. The Executive Committee has elected Wynne Voorhees of New Orleans, to be the new Treasurer. Marilyn Goldstein has resigned as Plant Registration Committee Chairman. Iris Keating of Claremont, CA has been appointed the new Chairman for this committee.

A question has come up as to the exact use of donations to the building fund. The AVSA Building Fund is a restricted fund, which is to be used solely for the purchase of or costs relating to the purchase of a building that will be the permanent AVSA Office. Maintenance for the present office building is paid out of our General Fund. No monies from the Building Fund have or will be used for repairs to the temporary office we are presently occupying.

Looking for that special gift for that special friend or loved one? Why not consider a gift certificate from one of our Commercial members or one of the many items for sale at the office.

A special thank you to all who have contributed to the Booster Fund, Boyce Edens Research Fund and the Building Fund this year.

Out in California they are planning the greatest show on earth. Starting date — April 22, 1991. Watch for the January issue of the AVM for all the details. Convention chairman Barbara Elkin and committee are busy preparing one of the best conventions ever. Why not plan on being there?

On behalf of the Board members, the Staff and myself, may I take this opportunity to wish everyone a joyous holiday season.

Happy growing and showing to all of you,

Mary C. Roland

Newsline: AVSA Beaumont Office

Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager

Dear Members:

"Tis The Season To Be Generous;" so, why not take this opportunity to "make someone happy" with a gift membership to AVSA and six issues of the African Violet Magazine?

MVL #5: Boy, is my face red; due to the immensity of compiling and printing the new MVL, we were not able to meet the shipping date I gave you in the September AVM. At this writing, the new MVL is in the final stages of printing, and your orders should be filled and on their way by the time you receive this magazine. Price is \$12.95.

MVL BINDER: The new MVL is looseleaf and will require a specific-size binder. We have the binders in stock. They are a very attractive, rich burgundy with two pockets and the cost is only \$6.95 postpaid.

MVL COMPUTER DISKETTES: Diskettes for the 1990 MVL are available for Macintosh and IBM-compatibles at the following cost:

\$75.00 for complete MVL

\$15.00 for 1991 update (when available)

\$15.00 for 1992 update (when available)

See page 44 for details on computer compatibility requirements.

NEW FACE FOR CULTURE FOLDERS: A new culture folder, with original art work by Georgene Albrecht, will soon be available. In addition to being very attractive, the new brochure will have additional information and will provide a larger application.

CHANGE IN PRICE FOR CULTURE

FOLDERS: For sometime now, AVSA has been absorbing a loss on the sale of culture folders due to rising costs in printing and shipping. This is particularly true in shipping quantities of 100 to 400 culture folders. For this reason, we

have had to increase the cost for the smaller quantities; however, the good news is that we are able to give you a price break for orders of 500 up because shipping is less per pound for larger quantities. New prices are as follows:

QUANTITY	PRICE PER 100
100 to 400	\$6.50
500 to 900	\$4.50
1000 and over	\$4.25

SHORT VERSION OF THE CULTURE FOLDER - (Minimum order 1,000) In November, we will have a short version of the culture folder, which can be used when a very large attendance is expected for African violet shows or other horticulture events. The minimum order accepted is 1,000. Prices are as follows:

QUANTITY	COST
1,000 to 4,000	\$15.00 per 1000
5,000 to 9,000	\$13.00 per 1000
10,000 and over	\$12.50 per 1000

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS WITH EXPIRATION DATE OF 12/31/99 ON AVM LABEL : A few Life members have asked why we put an expiration date of 12/31/99 on the address label of each issue of the AVM they receive. The reason for the date is that our computer determines who should receive a magazine by reading expiration dates; therefore, each account must have an expiration date. Since the expiration date for Life members is unknown, we chose a date for these members of the last date of the century. When the year 2000 (21st century) arrives, the present expiration date will roll over to the last date of the new century.

We wish you all a joyous and safe holiday season.

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From: _____
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Jane's Journal

Jane Birge, Editor

Recently, the Beaumont (TX) AVS had Dr. Charles Cole, entomologist at Texas A&M, as a guest speaker at one of their meetings. It was a true pleasure to listen to Dr. Cole's talk on African violet pests and to visit with him after the meeting. He is planning on publishing a booklet, putting together all of the different articles that he has written for the *AVM*, and make it available through AVSA. This will be a much-welcomed service, I'm sure, to our readership. We are very fortunate to have someone of Dr. Cole's stature working with us. I will include details of the forthcoming publication.

Word has been received here at the Beaumont office of the deaths of two very special friends in the African violet world. Although I did not know Jeannette Domiano of Louisiana, personally, I certainly knew of her great contribution to our society. Her wonderful hybrids and long-time allegiance with Dixie AVS will long be remembered.

Our sympathies and prayers also go to the family of Bert Warren of Massachusetts. Bert, the husband of AVSA Booster Fund Chairman, Ruth Warren, was the Registration Chairman for the 1990 Boston Convention. He also provided for me, the tickets to see the Boston Celtics play in the Boston Garden. He was much loved and will be missed by all.

A woman in Danville, Arkansas, has quite a few back issues of the *AVM* for sale — and lots of the old ones! She has individual issues from 1951 through 1983. She wants \$2.00 an issue. If you are interested in getting her complete list, you can contact: Earlene Payne, P. O. Box 171, Danville, AR 72833. This is a great opportunity to complete your set.

Rick Rice of Orangeville, PA is looking for

four varieties: Harvest Moon (Baker), Wrangler's Redeye (Smith), Allegheny Moon (Reed) and Crazy Quilt (Reed). If anyone can help Mr. Rice, he can be reached at P. O. Box 254, Orangeville, PA 17859.

Well, I have heard from the Canadians! Larry Hodgson, editor of the terrific, *Houseplant Forum*, has sent a flag. So now, the beautiful maple leaf of our northern neighbors is proudly displayed on the mantle at the AVSA office. Thank you very much, Larry.

Just at deadline for this magazine, a lovely flag from the state of North Carolina was received from Libbie Glembocki of Bluebird Greenhouse, of Apex, NC. Bluebird Greenhouse is a commercial member of AVSA and is just completing their first season of retail and mail order sales. Thank you, Libbie, for the kind words, and for the flag of the "old North State."

Any other states or countries reading this? Kazuo?

Barbara Elkin and her vast committees are busily preparing for the 1991 convention in Santa Clara, CA. One thing I can say about this group is how great their organization is! If it's any indication of what to expect next April, I can't wait.

If you haven't attended an AVSA convention — this will be the one to see. I heard it through the grapevine that hopefully there will be a good representation from Alaska at this convention. It will be great to meet them all.

The holiday season will soon be upon us. In this magazine I have included some articles that give tips on how to make sure your violets survive during this extra busy time for all.

Season's greetings to all you members who make this organization so very special!

Boyce Edens Research Fund

Marlene Buck
P. O. Box 38
Oreland, PA 19075

*Thank You, Thank You one and all
For your generous donations to BERF
Spring, summer, winter, fall
Happiest of Holidays to All!*

Donations received from May 20, 1990 through July 20, 1990:

Frances S. Brown, New York, NY in loving memory of my teacher and friend Ray Dooley	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Johnson, Greenville, AL in memory of our beloved son, Bill Johnson	50.00
The Pied Pipers AVS, St. Louis, MO	10.00
Long Island AVS, Little Neck, NY	25.00
Portland AVS, OR in memory of Fred Thomas	10.00
Aurora Borealis AVS, Anchorage, AK	25.00
Heart of Missouri AVS, Columbia, MO in lieu of judge's fees for our May 1990 show	45.00
Frank & Anne Tinari, Huntingdon Valley, PA in memory of Bill Johnson, a friend and fellow AVSA Research Committee member	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Clyde G. Holmes, Garland, TX in memory of Billy J. Johnson	20.00
Casper Bloomers AVC, WY	25.00
Heart of Dixie AVS, Dothan, AL in lieu of speaker's fee to Peggy Phythyon	50.00
Bergen County AVS, NJ	25.00
Tustana AVS, Tustin, CA in memory of Charles Morgan, our last active charter member	10.00
Normandy AVS, St. Louis, MO in memory of Geneva Wiese	5.00
North Star Council, Minneapolis, MN	15.00
Tampa AVS, FL	50.00
Memphis AVS, TN	10.00
Windsor AVS, CT in memory of Marie J. Barnett, valued and beloved member	25.00
Metropolitan AVS, Peoria, IL	10.00
The Late Bloomers VC, Monroe, WI in memory of Maralyn Whitmore	5.00
Bluff City AVC, Memphis, TN	20.00
First AVS of Spartanburg, SC	10.00
Cen-Tex Rainbow AVC, Waco, TX a thank you to Aloha Rhodes	5.00
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in honor of Elizabeth Fuller	10.00
in honor of M. R. "Vince" Vincent	10.00
Central Florida AVS, Orlando, FL in memory of Mrs. George W. (May) Morrison, a loyal member of our society	10.00
AVS of Greater New York, Inc., NY, NY	20.00
Glendale Chapter of AVS, CA in memory of Mrs. Ruby McCarroll, a dedicated member of our society	50.00
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Moonlight AVS, Fort Worth, TX	10.00

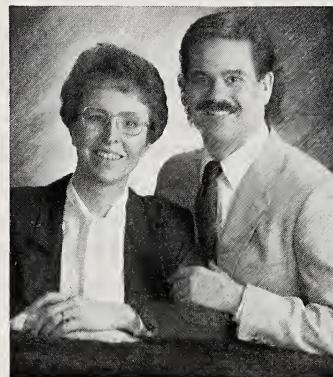
Please Note:

New
Plant Registration Chairman:

Iris Keating
149 Loretto Court
Claremont, CA 91711

BEGINNERS COLUMN

Kent and Joyce Stork
P. O. Box 398
Arlington, NE 68002



GOOD GROOMING FOR THE AFRICAN VIOLET

An African violet can be absolutely gorgeous for one grower, and be absolutely ugly for another. People also look better at some times than others — you should see us early in the morning! What is the difference? Grooming. It's as important for the violet as it is for people.

Violets do tend to bloom in cycles, so there is no way to keep the plant always at the level of beauty often seen in a show. But even when plants are only blooming a little, they do need regular grooming.

REMOVE OLD BLOSSOMS

Every time good growers look at their plants, they absent-mindedly remove blossoms that are old or faded. Faded blossoms may just be a little different in color, as though they are tired. Some varieties of violets have blossoms that remain fresh for weeks, some for much less than that. After a blossom has faded in color, it begins to lose its sturdiness and shape, and it sags on the stem. Soon after this, the blossoms will begin to dry to a tannish color.

When the first flowers on a stem begin to fade, use a small scissors or sharp fingernails to trim off these aged blossoms. Once there is any indication that it is declining, remove the blossom. It's only wishful thinking to believe that it will last enough longer to give you any pleasure.

Once the majority of blossoms on a stalk have faded, remove the entire stem. This is usually best accomplished by gently moving the stem back and forth from side to side until it is released from the main stalk of the plant. Do not

try to use a scissors to cut the stem away, as this will leave stubs along the main stalk which are not pretty. Only those who are disbudding plants for show might cut the blossom stems, and this would be done before the blossoms ever opened.

Occasionally a dead blossom will have a swollen "bulb" at its center which is a seed pod. These only occur when pollination has taken place, either by self-pollination, or as the result of human intervention. Hybridizers would not remove these pods for many months, but most growers would remove these in the grooming process.

Seed pods can also result from the presence of thrips, which feed on pollen sacs and stroll around the blossom meeting friends. When several seed pods are present, the grower should examine the blossom closely for this unpleasant guest, and make efforts to exterminate him.

REMOVE OLD LEAVES

In the process of generating new leaves in the crown of the violet, older leaves begin to age. As long as these leaves are sturdy, green, and healthy, they add to the beauty of the plant. Once the leaves begin to yellow, or show damaged edges, it is better to remove them.

Leaves are removed by gently moving them from side to side until the leaf snaps away from the stalk.

Leaving any stem stub can make the plant vulnerable to infectious fungal diseases like

botrytis.

The oldest leaves on the plant are the leaves that the plant generated when it was still on the mother leaf. These leaves will be noticeably smaller and growing under the larger leaves above them. They are often a less healthy green color and are usually quite smooth. These should be removed as soon as the newer leaves mature; definitely remove them when the plant is old enough to bloom.

As a plant grows older, it will grow to a size that reflects the conditions in which it is growing. If cultural conditions are perfect, an African violet will have its outside, oldest leaves keep a healthy green look until the plant reaches the largest size to which it is genetically capable.

Some large standard plants, like 'Something Special' or 'Majestic,' are capable of growing 25 inches or more in diameter. Semiminiature plants, like 'Magic Blue' or 'Precious Pink,' should not grow larger than eight inches across. In less than perfect conditions, however, the plants will not reach this size.

The violet will instead sacrifice outside leaves as it protects the center of its existence in the crown. These lower outside leaves will yellow and gradually soften. Remove them as soon as it is evident that they are not healthy, vigorous leaves.

Sometimes a grower may find than an African violet is beginning to grow much larger than the space available. In this case, healthy outside leaves may be removed to reduce the plant size. This will not cause serious injury to the plant.

Sometimes extreme heat, temperatures that go above 85 degrees Fahrenheit and remain there for more than an hour, will cause very rapid leaf damage.

The heat causes the cells of the leaves to burst as the water inside the cell expands more than the cell walls can stretch to accommodate. This will cause the leaf to become mushy and very limp in a matter of hours. Center leaves which are younger, seem to be more able to tolerate heat, and often will not show damage.

The mushy leaves must be removed immediately to protect the plant from disease.

Leaves that have mars on them may be left on the plant, so long as the leaf continues to keep a healthy look. If the mar begins to work its way

across the leaf in the form of wilting or drying, the leaf should be removed.

Sometimes the plant will begin to lose rows of leaves for no apparent reason. This may be the result of root damage and the grower should seek out the source of the damage before further leaf loss occurs.

Insects, temperature variations, soil quality, and pH are all possible explanations.

REMOVE THE SUCKERS

African violet plants are often prone to developing secondary crowns or suckers between rows of leaves. If these are left, the plant will develop a bushy look. This is one of the most common problems among beginning grower.

The AVSA Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors, and Judges stipulates that unless the violet is a trailing variety, it must have only one crown and will be disqualified from show if it has sucker.

At home the suckers detract from the beauty of the plant and often limit the plant's ability to thrive and bloom.

Suckers can be removed as soon as two pairs of leaves are visible in the tiny crown. It is fairly easy to poke them out with a dull pencil point at this stage.

If the sucker is left until the crown is two or three inches across, it can be gently lifted out and repotted into a tiny pot. A dull pencil point or metal tool designed for this work (called a sucker plucker) is carefully placed behind the lowest row of leaves on the sucker and pressure is gently applied to move the plant away from the main plant.

If the sucker has reached a mature size and is equal to the original plant, it is necessary to remove the plants from the pot and separate them using a clean knife. Place each plant in its own pot using the technique described later in this text.

It is wise to avoid piling potting mix up around the base of the bottom row of leaves when repotting African violets, as this is especially likely to provoke the growth of suckers.

CLEAN IT UP

While dead and dying blossoms and leaves should be removed on a daily or weekly basis,

cleaning the plant needs to be done only occasionally under normal conditions. A cat, nearby cooking, or an excessively dusty area like a woodworking shop may make it necessary to clean the plants more often.

Brushing the plant with a soft artist's brush is an excellent way to brush off debris and light coatings of dust. It can also help remove animal hair.

Eventually brushing will not be enough to get the plant clean, especially if the leaves have been subject to the greasy residue left from cooking or any source of smoke. Then it is necessary to wash the leaves with water. Our favorite method is to put several drops of a mild dish detergent (like Ivory Liquid) in a quart spray bottle filled with very warm water. Spray the surface of the leaves, avoiding the center crown, until the leaves are dripping.

Let the plant stand for a few minutes to allow the soap to work, then hold the plant at an angle under the tap and rinse the soap and dirt off the outside leaves with a very gentle flow of tepid water.

Again avoid getting the crown wet. Lightly blot the leaves dry using a soft cloth, paper tissue, or natural sponge. The leaves will not be totally dry when this process is finished, so set the plant away from any source of sunlight until the leaf surface has completely dried.

This cleaning will make an amazing difference in the appearance of the plant and in how well it grows. The dirt and grease interfere with light, which slows the process of photosynthesis. This will slow the growth of the entire plant.

REPOT AND BURY THAT NECK

As lower leaves die and are removed, the African violet plant will begin to develop a neck or bare stalk between the soil and the lowest row of leaves. As soon as the neck is visible the plant can be repotted in order to bury the neck. It should be done at least once a year, or the neck will become so long that repotting may cause undue stress on the plant.

Before repotting, allow the plant to dry out slightly so that leaves are not crisp and prone to breakage.

To bury the neck, begin by gently lifting the plant and root ball out of its pot. Then, using the

dull side of a knife, gently scrape off the old dried tissue on the outside of the bare stalk. This will speed the growth of new roots. If the neck is one inch long (from the soil to the bottom row of leaves) then slice one inch of soil and root away from the bottom of the root ball using a clean sharp knife. Gently work away some soil but avoid disturbing the roots. Then set the plant into a clean pot, add a good quality potting mix to the top and around the edges as needed. The plant should now be setting with its bottom row of leaves just even with the top of the pot. Avoid packing the soil! Violets have very fine roots which grow best in very loose soils. Water it in and put it back in its space. If most or all of the root system needs to be removed, due to a very long neck, the plant may be placed inside a large plastic bag and sealed shut for two to three weeks. Place away from direct sunlight. The additional humidity and warmth will aid the plant as it reroots.

The pot size used during this repotting depends on the size of the leaf span. Sometimes the plant has had so many leaves removed that it is necessary to put it into a smaller pot. Often it will not need any size change. Occasionally, if the plant is growing much larger, it will need a larger pot. Do not increase the pot size automatically, even though it seems like it would be easier. The general rule is that the diameter of the leaves should be three times the diameter of the pot.

IT'S OKAY TO TALK, BUT REMEMBER TO LISTEN

Grooming plants on a regular basis is a great way to really pay attention to their health and well-being. We recently read (we can't remember where) that talking to your plants is not nearly as important as listening to them. If the grower is grooming the plants regularly, he will be able to "listen." Small changes in their health will be noticed. Those small changes may signal the beginning of serious trouble. If it is detected early, the grower can effect a cure. Watch for pests. Watch for a change in the color or texture of the leaves. Watch for changes in growing and blooming patterns.

Most of all, just watch—that's where much of the joy of growing African violets lies.

COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2 - 4 SOUTH AFRICA — Southern AVS' show/sale, "Violets the World Over," Krugersdorp Library, South Africa. Free admission. Mrs. Petro van Loggerenberg, show chairman.

NOVEMBER 3 & 4 CALIFORNIA — Thousand Oaks AVS 10th anniversary show/sale, "Our Ten-Year Violet-A-Faire," Thousand Oaks Public Library, 1401 E. Janss Rd., Thousand Oaks. Nov. 3, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Nov. 4, 1 - 4 p.m. Free admission, public welcome. Marcia Shaver, show chairman. For information: 805-495-0218.

NOVEMBER 3 & 4 NEW JERSEY — Tri-State AVC show/sale, "Gay '90s," Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown. Nov. 3, 1 - 6 p.m.; Nov. 4, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Frank Senna, chairman.

NOVEMBER 9 - 11 MINNESOTA — AVS of Minnesota show/sale, "Family Holidays," Har MAR Mall, North Snelling Ave. at County Road B, Roseville. Regular mall hours. Russ Christensen, show chairman; Donna Tobin, co-chairman. Public invited.

NOVEMBER 10 & 11 MISSOURI — Mid-America AVS' 11th annual show/sale, "Conserving the Heritage of the Violet Family," Loose Park Garden Center, 5200 Pennsylvania, Kansas City. Both days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Grace McCurnin, president; Mary Gall, show chairman and Laurie Nelson, show vice chairman.

NOVEMBER 10 & 11 GEORGIA — African Violet Club of Greater Atlanta's 14th annual show/sale, "Violets In The Gay '90s," Atlanta Botanical Gardens Day Room, noon - 5 p.m., both days. Kathy Spissman, show chairman.

NOVEMBER 10 & 11 CALIFORNIA — AV Councils of Northern and Southern California's convention/show/sale, "A Tournament of Violets," Pasadena Hilton Hotel, 15 South Las Robles, Pasadena. Nov. 10, noon - 5 p.m.; Nov. 11, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Admission is free to the public. For more information: 818-363-6222.

NOVEMBER 17 & 18 TEXAS — Pasadena AVS show/sale, "Violets, Treasures of the Sea," Golden Acres Multi-purpose Center, 5001 Oak, Pasadena. Nov. 17, 1:30 - 6 p.m.; Nov. 18, noon - 5 p.m. John Gonzales, show chairman.

FEBRUARY 14 - 17 ILLINOIS — Glenview/North Shore AVS show/sale, Chicagoland Home and Flower Show, O'Hare Expo, Rosemont. Feb. 14 - 16, 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Feb. 17, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

MARCH 1 & 2 LOUISIANA — Violets on the Bayou's show/sale, "Violets for all Holidays," Southland Mall, Houma. For more information call show chairman, Anaise LeBlanc, 504-369-7526.

MARCH 1 - 3 GEORGIA — The Georgia AV Judges Society's show/sale, "March Along With Violets," Lakeshore Mall, Gainesville, during mall hours. Joan Cumpton, show chairman.

AVSA Booster Fund

Ruth Warren
P. O. Box 3664
Fall River, MA 02722

AVSA sincerely thanks all individuals, clubs and societies for the generous contributions to the Booster Fund.

We are trying to raise enough money to pay for the new computer and printer for the AVSA office.

A total of 75 donations have been received since the Boston convention. Thirty were from those who had not contributed before.

We are almost one third of the way to meet our goal. Could you help? Would you help? It can be done if everyone will try to support OUR, YOUR and MY AVSA. Please evaluate your priorities and consider the AVSA Booster Fund this year.

Note: There are several contributions received that did not send a complete address for me to send a thank you to you or your club. If you have not received one, please send me an address so I may complete my responsibility.

Our love of African violets is what has brought us together as members of AVSA. Love is caring. Love is sharing.

Magic Knight AVS	\$250.00
Springfield AVC	10.00
Violets On The Bayou	5.00
Central Texas Judges Council	500.00
Capital City AVS	25.00
AVS of Tucson	25.00
Suburban African Violet Enthusiasts	10.00
Grace D. Smith, CA	20.00
Jefferson AVA, LA	100.00
Victorian AVS	20.00
Itsuko Ishimoto, HI	15.00
South Coast AVS	25.00
Fancy Bloomers	15.00
The Topeka AVS	25.00
Baltimore AVC	100.00
AVS of Rochester	10.00
Lynnhaven AVS	25.00
AVSA Judges Council	25.00
Jane Fallow (lieu of speaker fee)	25.00
Quad City AVS	100.00
Susan Nickerson (lieu of speaker fee)	25.00
Gypsy AVC	25.00
AVS of the East Bay	25.00
San Joaquin AVS	20.00
Bay State AVS	100.00
AVS of San Francisco	25.00
Boston 1990 Pins & Patches	20.00
Spring Branch AVC	25.00
Northern California Council of AV Societies	25.00

IN MEMORY

BERTRAND "BERT" WARREN

Bert Warren, husband of Ruth Warren, Chairman of the AVSA Booster Fund, died October 14, 1990, in Fall River, Massachusetts.

All of us whose lives he touched have suffered a great loss, but we also know that our lives and those of our families have been enriched by his presence and friendship.

Bert and Ruth have been an obvious presence in the northeastern area in violets.

He was a member of the Bay State African Violet Society, serving all offices of that organization faithfully; a member of the Nutmeg State African Violet Society, and the Empire State African Violet Society. He worked long and hard serving in all offices for his local club, the Moby Dick African Violet Society.

Most recently he was Registration Chairman for the 1990 Boston Convention and in reality was an *ex-officio* member of all committees. He was truly there for all of us that worked on that convention.

You often hear about the "woman" behind the man, well—Bert was that "man" behind the woman. His support of Ruth, who was the Boston Convention Chairman, was very special indeed.

Bert was a retired industrial arts teacher, having taught for over 30 years and still kept in touch with the school system and his successor, always being there to help when needed. One only has to have known Bert to imagine the special impact he had on students, parents, and fellow teachers.

Our sympathy goes out to Ruth, his "best friend" and companion and to their son and daughter and their families. We know that they, as we, have had a better life for having had Bert as husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Nancy G. Hayes
Bloomfield, CT

JEANNETTE DOMIANO

The world of African violets and her friends were shocked and saddened to learn of the death of Jeannette Buklis Domiano at West Jefferson (Louisiana) Hospital on Thursday, September 6, 1990, after a brief illness.

In David Buttram's column, "A Closer Look," in the September/October 1990 issue, in which he featured "Jeannette's Jesneriads," he attributes Jeannette's love for African violets to a packet of seeds she won from Ronn Nadeau. From the almost microscopic African violet seeds grew a thriving and self-satisfying business for Jeannette. Her enthusiasm never waned; instead, she continued to strive for the best she could hybridize.

Jeannette was a member of AVSA, Dixie AVS, the First New Orleans AVS, and Bayou Gesneriad Society. She made an effort to attend national AVSA and Dixie AVS conventions and shows, where she had commercial sales and display tables. She was also a judge of African violets and enjoyed being invited to judge shows throughout Louisiana. Frequently she would give awards for the best of her cultivars, for it was her joy to see her plants win.

We are all going to miss Jeannette and her warmth, love, and caring. Although she is no longer in our midst, she leaves us with a legacy, rich in her knowledge, enthusiasm, and dedication. The vast number of African violets that God helped her to create — "Call Me Friend," "Natchurly Nawlins," and "Starcrossed," to name a few, will live on for years to come, each rewarding its owner with beauty and pleasure.

Survivors include her husband, Carl, of Gretna, LA; her daughters, Cindy Hahn of Frisco, TX; Hollie, Gina and Lezli Domiano; her mother, Mrs. Virginia Coners; and her grandson, Jason Hahn.

L. T. Ozio, Jr.
Third Vice-President



mini - tidbits



Florence Naylor

2647 Harbor Boulevard, Ventura, CA 93001

With the holiday season fast approaching, it gives us the opportunity to share our hobby with those around us in many different ways.

I saw a wonderful educational exhibit at the Heartland African Violet Show this spring where one exhibitor had used African violets in different ways to decorate the home for the 12 months of the year. Violets in centerpieces, violets on the mantel, violets in windows, violets as gifts to decorate a basket, bowl, placemat ... the imagination can run wild, but the idea was to use violets in unusual ways that were aesthetically pleasing.

The Miniature/Semiminiatures are particularly easy to use in this manner. They are charming in tea cups, and, put in an unusual container they make wonderful centerpieces. Give it a try, it is a lot of fun.

Has anyone out there come across Rambling Roses hybridized by Brenton? It is a miniature trailer with double red blooms and modified girl microminiature foliage.

If you have it or know someone who does have it, would please let Lydia M. Driskell know. Her address is: 14011 Claire Blvd., Robbins, IL 60472. She lost hers and would like to replace it.

With winter approaching we have to be wary of cold drafts on our violets to avoid powdery mildew from taking over. Care must be taken to provide more humidity for our violets, as heating our homes tends to dry out the atmosphere. Saucers filled with perlite and/or stones and water, placed around your violets, will help.

If you grow in a window, be sure no leaves are touching the glass pane, as cold night temperatures can turn your leaves into mush. Shorter daylight hours might mean moving your plants

to a place in the house that gets maximum brightness all day long if you want blooming to continue.

If you grow under lights, this would not be a concern. Colder weather will slow down growth a bit. Lighter applications of fertilizer may be warranted to avoid fertilizer burn.

Naturally, if you are fortunate enough to have a special plant room that is climate controlled, it is violetting as usual—even in winter.

Winter months are a good time to review what you are growing. It is a time to weed out the less desirable varieties to make room for the new plants you may wish to add to your collection in the spring.

A good way to weed out your collection with as little pain as possible, is to give them away as gifts. Usually the recipient is grateful and glad and you have more room. Everybody is happy.

Happy violetting throughout the holiday season.

Awards for Specific Named Varieties Santa Clara '91 Convention

*Esther Edwards Wells
Awards Chairman*

Altamont	Nob Hill
Everdina	Petite Jewel
Java	Precious Pink
Little Pro	Rob's Silver Spook
Magic Blue	Sedona
Mickey Mouse	Sugar Bear Blues
Ness' Minnesota Magic	Wee-Be
Ness' Viking Maiden	White Cameo

1990 Best Varieties

Rita Hilton
2295 W. Helen Circle
Bartow, Florida 33830



We wish to thank the 846 people who responded to our request to participate in compiling the 1990 list.

# of Votes	Name	Reg. #	Hybridizer
296	Granger's Wonderland	3419	Granger
261	Precious Pink	6025	Pittman
231	Splendiferous	5813	Whitaker
218	Melody Kimi	n/r	Sunnyside
207	Mark	3007	Maas
194	Tiger	3433	Fredette
189	Snuggles	5018	Lyon
141	Something Special	3668	Nadeau
139	Optimara Alabama	6542	Holtkamp
130	Snow Rose	5985	Whitaker
118	Ms. Pretty	5225	Anderson
116	Nortex's Snowkist Haven	6046	Johnson
116	Pixie Blue	2598	Lyon
110	Irish Angel	4054	Egenites
108	French Lilac	2844	Swift
107	Kiwi Dazzle	5888	Snell
102	Amazing Grace	2688	Soultz
98	Wrangler's Dixie Celebration	4490	Smith
97	Fickle Flirt	6738	Sorano
96	Ballet Lisa	2898	Fischer
94	Granger's Desert Dawn	4050	Eyerdom
94	Snowy Trail	3678	Lyon
90	Fisherman's Paradise	4843	Sisk
88	Chiffon Print	6434	Fredette
88	Magic Blue	6249	Pittman
87	Frances Young	5890	Pittman
87	Ming Blue	5823	Eyerdom
87	Wrangler's Jealous Heart	6225	Smith
85	Little Pro	6637	Pittman
85	Optimara New Mexico	6583	Holtkamp
84	Hello Sunshine	6740	Sorano
81	Optimara Rose Quartz	6969	Holtkamp
79	Midnight Romance	5998	Sorano
78	Ballet Marta	2899	Fischer
78	Mickey Mouse	n/r	Inpijn

# of Votes	Name	Reg. #	Hybridizer
77	Fisher's Leone	4540	Fisher
76	Dancin Trail	5565	Sorano
75	Christmas Candy-O	5032	Groeneman
75	Emilie Savage	5445	Granger
73	Black Ace	3541	Nadeau
72	Optimara Harlequin	6947	Holtkamp
69	Majestic	6380	Burns
68	Little Jim	3005	Maas
67	Mauna Loa	5336	Eyerdom
67	The King	2698	Maas
65	China Pink	3429	Fredette
64	Boca Grande	5112	Williams
63	Granger's Heart's Desire	3407	Granger
63	Pay Dirt	4988	Tracey
62	Summer Lightning	5023	Lyon
60	Becky	2669	Maas
60	Grandma's Zack	5164	Nadeau
58	Sundown	3598	Utz
57	Nancy Reagan	2167	Rienhardt
56	Winnergreen	4693	Pittman
55	Little Katherine	6238	Hart
55	Sheer Heaven	6369	Sorano
55	Vampire's Kiss	n/r	Boone
54	Wrangler's Pink Patches	6230	Smith
53	Bertha	6159	Foster
53	Camelot Pink	4293	Granger
53	Falling Snow	n/r	Tracey
53	Mindi Brooke	7064	Boone
53	Omaha	7071	Stork
53	Tommie Lou	1744	Oden
52	Optimara Hawaii	6558	Holtkamp
51	Beginner's Luck	2803	Pritchett
51	Cinnamon Girl	7202	Sorano
51	Columbia	5450	Eyerdom
51	Nortex's Snowfrill Haven	6045	Johnson
51	Painted Sunrise	6746	Sorano
51	Phantom Flash	7065	Boone
51	Such-A-Flirt	n/r	Sorano
51	Tiger Lily	6419	Egenites
51	Tina	2680	Maas
50	Bogeyman	5071	Scott
50	Coral Kiss	6736	Sorano
50	Fredette's Moonflower	6437	Fredette
50	Frosted Whisper	7198	Scott
50	Hart's Snow White	5590	Hart
50	Optimara Molokai	6578	Holtkamp
50	Raspberry Rose	6450	Granger
50	Rob's Sticky Wicket	6467	Robinson
50	Suncoast Candy Stripe	6520	Williams

Questions and Answers on Design

*Julie Adams
186 Waverly Road, Shelton, CT 06484*

The design section in African violet shows has terminology that may be a bit confusing to some exhibitors. To interpret the schedule, it may be helpful to familiarize oneself with some of the terms used. It may make it easier to construct a design using the proper components as well. Understanding what is allowed, could make a difference in the award an exhibit may receive.

Some questions and answers often help exhibitors, I hope the following will do so.

What is design? A design is the organization of the elements of design in a flower arrangement.

What is meant by accent in a design? To call attention to; to emphasize; to become important.

What is an accessory? It is a helper. Must be subordinate to the design. It is something used in addition to the container, mechanics, base, background, and plant material. I should contribute to the design, and incorporating it into the design makes it more meaningful.

What is an arrangement? It is the organization of plant material on a base, or in a container as specified by the schedule.

What is meant by artificial plant material? It is manufactured material that resembles natural plant material. It is not allowed in shows.

What is a background? It is the surface behind the arrangement.

What is an underlay? It is something used beneath the design. (Not a base). It would be a contrasting piece of material, either in color, etc., or it may be a continuation of the background material. It could be fabric, paper, etc.

What is a base? It is anything under the container. It could be a mat, a piece of wood, a stand, etc. The underlay is not a base.

What is a component? The materials that the designer has used to create the design, such as the plant material, container, background and mechanics. The optional components are usually bases, accessories.

What is meant by conformance? This means that the exhibitor must follow the rules of the schedule.

What is a container? It is anything used to hold the plant material.

What is Decorative Wood? Included in this category are dried branches, limb or trunk pieces root pieces, cypress knees, or any parts of a tree that has been altered by the elements. Included here may be wood whose surface has been varnished, waxed or treated otherwise, if so permitted by the schedule.

What is dried plant material? Any plant material that has had the moisture removed from it.

What is driftwood? It is also known as decorative wood.

What is meant to embellish? This is a term used when doing a holiday show, where may use glitter or "artificial" snow, etc., in your design. If this is permitted, it must be stated in the schedule.....

What is a feature in a design? It is the most dominant object in a design. The schedule must state the fact that a particular thing is to be featured.

What is the "frame of reference"? It is the outside dimension or border of the exhibit.

What is fresh plant material? It is any part, cut from a living plant, that has been conditioned, and is not wilted.

What is a holder? It is any type of mechanic that will hold and control plant material in an arrangement.

What are mechanics? Anything used to construct your design, that will hold and control the plant materials.

What is a niche? It is a space which has been recessed.

What is a pin holder? It is a mechanic used to hold plant material in a design.

What is a cup pin holder? It is a pin holder, attached in a well shape that will hold water, as well as plant material.

What is oasis? It is synthetic material that

must be soaked, and will retain water, and support plant material in an arrangement.

What is floral tape? It is a stretchable, self-sticking tape, used to cover wire; attach small floral tubes to stems; and to cover straws that may hold flower stems.

What are flower or water tubes? These are small glass or plastic tubes that hold water. They may be attached to stems with floral tape, and will hold blossoms or foliage in various heights.

What is balance? It is the visual stability of a design.

What is asymmetrical balance? It is balance produced without symmetry. Example: a see-saw.

What is symmetrical balance? It is balance achieved by both sides of an imaginary axis being equal.

What is meant by beauty in an arrangement? It is the quality that brings aesthetic pleasure.

What are chromatic colors? They are those which have both hue and chroma.

What is an abstract design? An abstract design falls into the creative design area. It is the use of plant material, and other components in unnatural concepts.

What are achromatic colors: They are colors that lack chroma and hue. White, gray, black fall into this category.

What are advancing colors? They are primarily warm colors: yellow, orange and red.

What are analogous colors? Closely related colors, such as one primary color, and three adjacent hues.

What is a color wheel? It is a circle of the colors, with which the addition of black or white, shows the results of such additions.

What are complementary colors? They are the colors found opposite each other on the color wheel.

What are cool colors? They are the blues and greens.

What is meant by creativity in a design? It is the originality in a design shown by the designer, either by the use of the components or the concept.

What is a decorative design? It is a design that is made to be used in a specific spot as a

decoration.

What are the elements of design? The elements of design are light, space, line, form, size, color, texture and pattern. They are basically visual.

What are the principles of design? The principles of design are balance, proportion, scale, rhythm, dominance and contrast. With these principles in mind, the elements in the design are organized.

What does a judge look for in a design under "distinction"? An exhibit with superior qualities.

What is dominance in a design? It is a strong, outstanding feature in the arrangement.

What is meant by the term "to eliminate an entry"? Judges can eliminate from consideration an entry that for some reason doesn't come up to the show quality.

What is a free-standing design? It is a design to be viewed from all sides.

What is meant by gradation? In design construction, it is the gradual change in color, form, texture or size.

What is harmony? It is an orderly arranging of all the components of the design, as well as, the consistency and pleasing effect of the components.

POET'S CORNER

I'm only a bug, but I needed a home
So through all the wonderful violets I roam
It's so quiet and peaceful - a wonderful place
I snuggled down fast with a smile on my face.

Oh oh - what's that sound? - it's a p-s-s-t that I hear
It's menacing noise makes a hum in my ear
Quick - dive for cover, p-s-s-t and then p-s-s-t
Up on the wall there's a timed spray of mist!

I smell the Pyrethrin and run for the door
Gotta get out - can't take anymore
This grower's not fooling, she knows what to do
So hey - all you bugs - here's a warning for you!

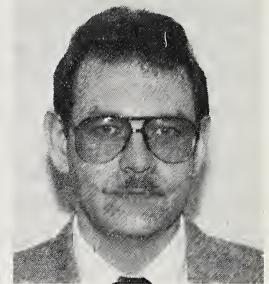
Chris Estridge

Richmond, BC, Canada

QUESTION BOX



James Smith
489 Linwood Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209



Question: I am having a problem getting 'girl' violets to bloom. I use Peter's fertilizer and Superthrive for feeding. Plants are grown under fluorescent lights. Most of my plants bloom on and off, but not the plants with 'girl' foliage. What am I doing wrong?

Answer: I have experienced this problem mostly with African violet miniatures. A friend of mine suggested that I remove a few of the center leaves to allow more light to enter the center of the plant. This suggestion did work. It seems that a crowded center will inhibit the formation of buds due to insufficient light reaching the bud-producing cells. I have used this method on standards with success. Only remove enough leaves to allow more light to reach the center. The center may be a little misshaped for a while, but will correct itself with new growth and a reward of blossom clusters.

Question: I have had great luck with African violets, but for some reason, I can't get episcias to bloom. I get a multitude of buds which wither and die. I use the same soil and growing conditions for both violets and episcias. I need suggestions, got any?

Answer: The lack of humidity is your problem. Episcias require more humidity than African violets. Quoting from an article in the March/April 1990 issue of the *Gesneriad Journal*, written by Max Dekking, states the following tips for growing episcias:

1. A temperature not lower than 60 degrees, preferably 65 degrees, which can go as high as 100 degrees without detrimental effect as long as the next requirement is met.
2. A humidity percentage of 65% to 70%.
3. A light intensity slightly less than for Afri-

can violets.

4. A daily misting with warm water, with a few drops per quart of Atlas Liquid Fish or Liquid Whale added, twice a week.

5. Plenty of air circulation, but **avoid cold drafts.**

6. A heavy feeding program, 1/4 regular strength at every watering.

Following these six growing tips, should help provide lush foliage and abundant bloom. Good luck.

Question: I purchased leaves of several African violet varieties and they developed into lovely variegated plants. When blooms arrived, two bloomed with abnormally small flowers according to the description of the variety. Bloom color and foliage are all true to description. All plants are grown under the same environmental conditions and under the same methods of care. Is it possible that the blossom size 'sported'?

Answer: After checking with two experienced hybridizers in my area, they tell me that this situation is unlikely, but not entirely impossible. Briefly defined, a sport is a variation in the color, form, or size of the plant or part of the plant.

Since the flower is part of the plant, then I suppose that a change in blossom size, with regards to your situation, could be a 'sport.' I must mention that a decrease in blossom size could be caused by the grower's cultural conditions, with high heat and low humidity being the major contributing factors.

After several leaf generations of one of my hybrids, 'Jim's Christmas Bell,' suddenly changed from tiny bell blossoms to large bells. This only happened to one plant that I chose to

propagate. Attempts to propagate, using a different plant of the same variety, growing true to description, resulted with normal plants being produced. From time to time, I grow several plants of the same variety for show entry reasons. It has happened that if I delete all but one plant of a variety and attempt to propagate it from a leaf, the plantlets are not quite the same as the original. I am sure this has happened to several of you and it is frustrating. In most cases, it is not the fault of the hybridizer, especially in those varieties that have been around a long time. The genetic material, for some reason, just alters.

If you propagate from leaves, be aware of possible changes. Discard all plants that do not grow true to the hybridizer's description, unless the result is significantly different as with a mutation, then it might be worth your time and attention.

Question: Is there any way to increase blossom size on African violets?

Answer: The only way that I have been successful in increasing blossom size is to control the amount of humidity and temperature. The basement growing environment is excellent for growing anything under fluorescent lights. The basement is cool and the temperature is easily maintained, providing you don't have 100 lights. (Don't send me your light bill.) My plant room is in an enclosed area, and with 24 lights burning 14 hours a day, it does get quite warm. My solution to this is to keep a large 24-inch fan running during the hours that the lights are on. This seems to help. For the out-of-the-basement grower, it will help to mist your plants; taking care not to let the sun shine on the foliage until it is dry. A fan or air conditioner will also help. In the basement, I can usually hold the temperature to about 72-78 degrees during the day in summer, with about a 5 degree drop at night, sometimes cooler. If I am successful with this control this year, I'll be sleeping with the plants! M-o-o-ove over, y'all. Maintaining cool temperatures seems to be the secret.

Question: I have a plant that shows a noticeable lighter edge on the outer two rows of leaves. my soilless mix has good drainage and I use Peter's 15-30-15 fertilizer at each watering. All of my plants are grown under lights with a

temperature of 70 degrees and humidity of about 60%. The plants are grown Texas style and are repotted every two months. Can you tell me what might be going wrong?

Answer: You mentioned the cultivar, 'The King' as being your major concern. For many years, I have grown this plant and from time to time, I too have experienced this problem.

Some varieties have a tendency to develop a yellow or light edge. This is called 'halo-ing,' which is caused from nitrogen or boron deficiency. If your plants have been on a long schedule of low nitrogen, such as the formula you mentioned, a 'halo-ing' may occur. It was suggested that I use a balanced formula such as Peter's 20-20-20 for a few weeks. Also being particularly fond of the 'The King,' I tried this and after about six weeks, the problem gradually cleared. I have learned that some varieties need more nitrogen than others and now, I alternate monthly between the two formulas on all plants with no adverse effects. Since you mentioned that you pH was correct, a low level of nitrogen may be the problem.



Diana Selfert displays Best In Show winner, *Snowfire*, in the Jefferson African Violet Association's April 1990 show in Louisiana.

You Deserve a Vacation In the Golden State of California!

*Cathy Cornibe
Publicity Chairman
Santa Clara 1991 Convention*

Have you marked your calendars yet? If not, then get that calendar out right now and mark April 22-28, 1991 for your vacation in Santa Clara, California. Enjoy the 45th Annual AVSA Convention, "Violets In The Golden State," while staying in the new luxurious Doubletree Hotel.

California was nicknamed the "Golden State" because of its gold production. The miners who came in search of gold were called the '49ers, referring to the first major year of the California Gold Rush. Today, more than 100 years later, the search for gold still continues. California is not only rich in history, but also in lush vineyards, giant redwoods, agriculture, spectacular scenery, and more.

Not familiar with Santa Clara? Santa Clara is one of California's most exciting business and travel destinations. It is south of San Francisco at the lower tip of the San Francisco Bay. Santa Clara is situated in the Santa Clara Valley, also known as the Silicon Valley due to the concentration of electronic technology firms. The Silicon Valley is the world leader in the microchip industry. The Valley is rich in California history and tradition, and exemplifies the blending of the old and new by offering a home to giant computer and aerospace companies.

Santa Clara was founded in 1777, as the eighth of the Spanish Franciscan missions in California. The Spanish influence is evident in architecture, and restored missions. It was incorporated as a city in 1852. The population of Santa Clara County is 1.4 million.

Santa Clara not only has many places to see and visit, but it is also centrally located nearby many exciting cities, including San Francisco, Monterey, Carmel, Santa Cruz, San Jose and Reno. The sightseeing opportunities are unlim-

ited!!! There is so much for you to see and do, once you get here. So double your pleasure, double your fun—with a vacation and convention all in one!

What are you waiting for? Make those plans today to be with us for the upcoming AVSA Convention in Santa Clara. You deserve a fantastic vacation in the Golden State of California!

Attn: Affiliates Publication Entries

Mildred Schroeder

Wouldn't it be a fine accomplishment for your club to receive a money award or a coveted ribbon from an entry in the AVSA convention/show at Santa Clara, California?

Now is the time to make your entries in the Special Exhibits Division of the show. The Yearbook your club has labored over and is so proud of, will be judged by the St. Louis African Violet Judges Council. Send three copies of the yearbook to Ardath Miller, 529 Ranch Dr., Manchester, MO 63031. The deadline is January 15, 1991, so hurry!

Your Magazine or Newsletter, a year of copies, will also be evaluated by the AVSA scale of points found in the Handbook for Judges, Growers and Exhibitors. Please send these entries to: The Hi Country Judges Workshop, Janice Sorensen, 8357 E. Jamison Circle, Englewood, CO 80112, with the same deadline as the yearbooks.

We will all be looking for your entries at Santa Clara.

The African Violet Society of America, Inc.
Statement of Condition
December 31, 1989

Assets

Unrestricted assets	
Cash and equivalents	\$ 116,588
Due from restricted funds	19,696
Other assets	<u>17,855</u>
	<u>154,139</u>
Restricted assets	
Cash and liquid investments	<u>221,976</u>
Total assets	\$ <u>376,115</u>

Liabilities

Unrestricted liabilities	
Unearned membership dues	\$ 104,545
Other unearned revenues	7,704
Due to restricted funds	12,334
Other liabilities	<u>1,321</u>
	<u>125,904</u>
Restricted liabilities	
Due to other funds	<u>19,780</u>
Total Liabilities	\$ <u>145,684</u>

Fund Balances

Unrestricted	
General Fund	\$ 28,236
Restricted	
Life Membership Fund	83,725
Boyce Edens Research Fund	51,012
Building Fund	64,748
Hudson Award Fund	<u>2,710</u>
	<u>202,195</u>
Total Fund Balances	<u>230,431</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ <u>376,115</u>

Statement of Operations
December 31, 1989

Society Revenues

Membership dues	\$ 169,303
Convention revenues	68,692
Other revenues	<u>57,821</u>
Total society revenues	<u>295,816</u>

Society Expenses

African Violet Magazine expense	125,143
Beaumont Office expense	90,699
Convention expense	69,962
General and administrative expense	26,542
Committee expense	9,667
Officers expense	<u>2,756</u>
Total society expenses	<u>324,769</u>
Deficit of society revenues under expenses	<u>\$ (28,953)</u>



Romancing the Violet

Georgene Albrecht
101 Oak Heights Drive
Oakdale, PA 15071

The word "romance" brings a vision of picturesque dreams and loving, warm sentiments in a fanciful surrounding. Our charming saintpaulias are well suited as an adornment in the romantic Victorian, French country or formal Colonial decors. Certain violet flowers can be an elegant cut flower in designs created for wedding, corsage and epicurean garnish. Their flower size and structure make them easy to use in cake and banquet decoration. I want to share with you, my love for embellishment and ornamental use of saintpaulia in the hope that YOU will find new violet dimensions. AVM has published many good features on design, which I consider an enormous and complicated subject. This article is meant to inspire you to use saintpaulia as an ornamental and as a fresh-cut flower. Selecting the proper hybrid with sturdy bloom and stem is the secret of success. It is amazing that the floral industry, which constantly searches for the new and unusual bloom, has not fostered the use of saintpaulia flowers. The double-flowering hybrids from Granger Gardens and other hybridizers last for days, provided the plant is well watered prior to cutting.

Decorating trends today seem to blend formal with the informal. Look at the popularity of *Victoria* magazine. Queen Victoria's long reign (1837-1901) gave us much of the decorative use

of florals in fabric, wall-coverings, furniture and ornamentation. During that period of time, most of the plant material we use today was in cultivation. We still use the "Language of Flowers" developed then. During the last 30 years of her reign, florals became grotesque masses of wax flowers, seashells, feathers, etc. So, most of today's revival is based on the early Victorian period. *Viola odorata*, the common violet, is no longer cultivated much as a fresh flower crop. This is the lovely single violet-colored violet which was massed in hand bouquets. A wasp type bloom of S. 'Blue Tail Fly' or any other blue wasp, can be substituted for *viola odorata*. For foliage to match, try galax leaves that are round and serrated. The petiole stems of the wasp blooms are delicate and must be tied and supported just below the flower head pedicel. These flowers are especially nice with lily-of-the-valley and miniature roses. They can be bound, inserted in a small, narrow water tube, watered with a hypodermic syringe and cooled lightly, to last for four to five days.

Our saintpaulia flowers bloom in colors that were typically Victorian; fuchsia, magenta, puce, pink and every imaginable shade of purple. In Gothic times the color violet meant "meditation." The blue violet signifies loyalty and the white denotes innocence. Hues of the ash and dusty rose colors are one of the most

popular decorating colors today. Fresh-cut, pink and lavender double saintpaulia bloom stalks are a great substitute for sweet pea and species rose bloom. They are compatible with many shades of pink in dianthus, rose and larkspur.

Single saintpaulia blooms do not hold well. Some of the Optimara are wonderful but know the blooms in advance of rendering a decorative piece. One variety that seems to hold for days after cutting is Granger's Camelot Pink. Many of the Granger hybrids have petioles and bloom that are very husky and solid. The bloom substance is what we need for long-lasting cut flowers. Watering the plant 24 hours before cutting the flower ensures longevity. Condition the bloom stalks by re-cutting the stems under distilled water, thus eliminating possible air intake. Use a very sharp knife because scissors crush tissue. Wearing white cotton gloves will protect blooms from the oil and salt on hands. Fill all tubes, containers and florist foam with aged tap, rain or bottled water.

These double blooms may be very heavy and need to be supported or controlled with a white or green cloth-covered wire which is available in most craft stores. To make a support, form a hook at the end of the wire, bend it sideways, gently wrap it beneath the flower or cluster in the direction desired and tape the wire to the stem. The wire must be light, yet strong enough to hold the bloom erect. This wire is sold by the length and on a spool much like thread. It is wonderful for threading lace nosegay holders. Use florist tape because it is strong and waterproof. Keep a box of "goodies" close at hand so that you can create something fast and easy. For larger bridal work, use clusters of saintpaulia flowers in a small Aquapic tube or use floral tape to bind a small green stick wood to the petiole. They will be easy to insert into floral oasis. When using the Aqua tubes it may be necessary to enlarge the hole in the rubber cap. Use a sharp knife to make an "X" cut. Three bloom stems will fit into one tube should a small mass be needed. Hold assembled arrangements near 50°. Dry all flower petals thoroughly before cooling. They keep well when placed over covered ice in styrofoam or chest coolers.

One of the most useful decorating accessories

is tulle, the material like bridal veil. It is available in a rainbow of colors, 54 inches wide on a bolt selling for under \$1 a yard. Wide, twisted strands make luxurious buntings and swags on table, wall and buffet. Doubled strands can be used as ribbon to create illusion bows. I use it for gift-wrap and nesting in baskets. Here's an easy centerpiece — wrap tulle and satin ribbon around an wreath, ending in a fluffy bow. Lay the wreath on its side and place a saintpaulia inside. Give the violet a halo of baby's breath, gypsophylia, just by poking stems into the wet potting medium. Avoid damaging the leaves. Saintpaulia in pots are wonderful in pot-*et-fleur*. This is the French idea of using several potted plants with fresh-cut flowers in a design. For example, place waterproofing, like plastic, in a grapevine or other basket. Place a pot of variegated English ivy under the handle so that one vine can be wired up the handle. Place one or two potted saintpaulias of the deep, violet bloom color beside the ivy. One pot of baby tears could look like a ground cover. Conceal a small vase under the ivy and place three or four stems of bright yellow miniature carnations rising as if growing there. A small animal, bird or accessory may also be added. This is so very attractive in a deep bowl suitable for a dish garden.

Do you wear our African violets? Why not? It's so easy. Some of the shows of yesteryear had a design class for corsage. A boutonniere or small corsage can be made in seconds if preparations are made ahead of time. Miniature vials, to hold the cut stems, can be fashioned by folding three-inch strips of clear Sweetheart drinking straws in half and taping them together to form two chambers. Foliage can go in one, flower stems in the other. To moisten the cut stems, first, wrap them with strands of tissue (facial or toilet ... don't laugh, it is best), insert in the straw tube and then dip in water. A small bow can be tied around the tube to hide it if presented to a lady or a leaf, whether real or artificial, can hide the tube for a gentleman's lapel. Insert the pin through the tube, not the bloom stems.

All basic elements in any composition are the same. Strive to create a three-dimensional crescent, cone, triangle, etc. If in doubt, do as Mother Nature, never have a perfectly straight

line, always have a flower as a focal point near the center of balance and place the very light color, smallest flowers and foliage at the top of the design. Heavy, dark bloom and foliage are usually placed in the base or lower portion. Limit colors — one is great, two is fine, and three is maximum. As a general rule, flowers are worn on the person as they grow in habitat. If using a ribbon in any arrangement or presentation, choose one made of acetate because it remains crisp when humidity is high. Today there are so many glorious accessories — filament pearls, crystal chips and wired diamonds. Remember too, when refrigerating flowers at home, double wrap them in plastic because

frost-free dehydrates.

AVSA chapters may want to plan a show using a Victorian or French country theme featuring epergne, cascading fruit and flower designs. Keep apples away from bloom as it emits ethylene gas, aging the flowers. Dried botanicals with saintpaulia fresh-cut flowers are fantastic in tussimussie or nosegay. "The Language of Violet Flowers" could set the stage for best of show. Artistic designs might interpret tapestry prints and today's antiques dominate miniature design. Why not have the terrariums and dish gardens resemble Edwardian cases and ferneries?

Let's all enjoy romancing the violet.

Choose the Appropriate Holiday Gift

*Anne Tinari
Membership & Promotion Chairman*

It's that time of the year again when days grow short, chilly nights and threatening snows appear.

Once again it's holiday time. Our thoughts are occupied with the joy and anticipation of family, friends and the selection of gifts for special individuals in our lives.

A gift subscription to our beautiful African Violet Magazine can solve your gift problem for anyone who enjoys growing African violets. An appropriate thoughtful gift that lasts a year and keeps on giving with six colorful issues.

The excellent articles and experiences it contains written by our columnists appear in every issue.

Many tips on care and culture to grow bigger and better African violets are expressed.

Research reports are most interesting and the many advertisements that carry products to help in the growing of African violets are always helpful.

Many of the latest introductions are shown in color on the cover. Also featured in color are some of the newest and most popular African violets.

I was privileged to greet a group of violet lovers who are residents of a retirement village

that came to tour the greenhouses.

I was thrilled to notice several members were clutching an African Violet Magazine, they appeared truly happy it was in their possession.

I asked if they were fellow members and was told several were, but shared their magazine with the whole group and many had started cuttings and plantlets from the knowledge, enthusiasm and information they had gleaned from articles in the magazine.

One member expressed it provided sociability and a common interest that they all shared and enjoyed, as she remarked, "It makes life beautiful."

'Tis the season to bring joy into the lives of others.

Do you have a friend who loves African violets and would greatly enjoy a gift subscription to this magazine?

We must not keep our great society a secret, but introduce our beautiful magazine to your neighbors, friends and plant lovers all over the world.

Give a gift subscription to someone you love, introduce them to the joy and beauty of African violets with greetings for a happy holiday season.

Revival of a Former AVSA Practice

*Anne Tinari
Membership & Promotion Chairman*

At the Santa Clara Convention in California 1991, AVSA will provide news releases on official society letterhead revealing membership attendance, entries in the show, special society awards, individuals elected to office and other noteworthy items of interest to the violet public.

Joyce Stork, AVSA Board Member and member of the Membership & Promotion Committee will undertake the organization of this great task.

Copies can be made of these releases and sent home with members in attendance to all areas of the country to appear in local and regional newspapers. This will help advertise our great society and spur interest in The African Violet Society of America, Inc.

So plan your entries to be a winner and get the recognition you deserve!

AVS of The East Bay Honors Member

Don Thornburg

The African Violet Society of The East Bay, at a recent regular meeting, celebrated the 100th birthday of one of its founding members, Miss Marion Ivory, a long-time resident of Alameda, CA. Miss Ivory had a career as a medical nurse in New York state prior to moving to the East Bay where she continued working in some of the hospitals and medical facilities.

Miss Ivory has been a member of The African Violet Society in Oakland for more than 30 years. She still grows and cares for hundreds of African violets in her Alameda home. She attends all the club's meetings. She participates in exhibiting in shows and fairs and is the winner of many blue ribbons. She gives lectures and demonstrations on the propagation and culture of African violets and is a source of information to the newcomer and inexperienced.

She is indeed a blue ribbon winner.



Best in Design at a recent Sundowners AVS show, "Raisin Violets," was "Cut Flowers - Raisin Violets," exhibited by Sophie Cole. Sophie also won Best AVSA Collection, and Best In Show.

NEW PLANT REGISTRATION CHAIRMAN:

Iris Keating
149 Loretto Court
Claremont, CA 91711

Alan's Fallen Angel

miniature trailer

an adorned plant
using lace ribbon

by

Georgene Albrecht





YOUR LIBRARY

L. T. Ozio, Jr.
1009 Ditch Avenue
Morgan City, LA 70380



It is always a genuine pleasure to read the favorable comments returned to the Library Committee regarding the new 1990 convention show.

The new programs are just two of the many programs AVSA offers you for your use and enjoyment. The comments brought all of us much satisfaction and pleasure to all of the workers responsible for the photography, record keeping, assembling, and other activities that go into the production of a convention slide program.

To the many workers who gave so generously of their time, talents, and energy at the Boston Convention we say, "Thank you so much!"

The many volunteers responsible for this undertaking include: Doreen Hassan Ilene Rhodas, Patt Harris, Dolores Wilson, Alice Courage, Leonard Re, Laurene Jones, Martha Dyson, Margaret Fargeot, Yvonne Ozio, Opal Nuyianes, Barbara Elkin, George and Anna Jean Landgren, Bert Warren, Irwin Wagman, Miriam K. Green, Nancy and John Hayes, Bob Green, David Lass, and Rose Howlett.

Without the help of all these good people, we would not have succeeded.

Of course, we are always looking for more workers who will be able to help with the photography session at the Santa Clara convention in 1991.

The activity starts during the afternoon of the show, following the judging, and goes on until the show room is officially opened to the conventioneers later in the evening. Those who wish to volunteer are reminded that they will be unable to attend the opening dinner scheduled for Friday night of the convention.

Photographers with their own equipment,

such as camera, flash attachment and tripod, are especially needed. Those who wish to offer their services to the Library committee are invited to let me know if they are able to help.

In addition to the slide programs, packets are offered for loan to members and affiliates for a period of one month. The five titles of the packets presently offered include: "Just For Fun Packet," "Newsletter/Magazine Packet," "Program Planning Packet," "Show Schedules Packet," and "Yearbook Collection Packet."

The cost of each packet to be borrowed is \$2.00 and must be paid by check to AVSA, at time of request. Send requests to the AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, Texas 77704. Rules for borrowing packets and/or slide programs can be found in the July/August 1990 issue of the AV Magazine on pages 32-34.

One of the library's most popular packets offered for your entertainment and knowledge is the "Show Schedules Packet." Each packet contains about 12 schedules for your perusal. The packets contain samples of Show Schedules approved by the Affiliates Chairman and used during the previous violet season.

By reading these schedules one can get a good idea of the types of violets that are grown and shown by other affiliates from regions throughout our country. Why don't you order a packet now? Maybe you will find some new ideas that can be used for your own show.

Another packet that is offered each year is the "Newsletter/Magazine Packet." Up-dated each year with fresh material, this packet contains some of the yearbooks, newsletters, and magazines exhibited at the convention.

We urge and invite all affiliates to send in your yearbooks, magazines, and newsletters for the 1991 competition. Winners in all cate-

ries will be announced at the Convention. Each of the winners, as well as all entries received in time for the competition, will be prominently displayed in the show room of the convention.

Here's what you must do in order to enter: for Yearbooks, send three copies to St. Louis African Violet Judges Council, Ardath Miller, 529 Ranch Dr., Manchester, MO 63031 by January

Do You Know This Hudson Award Winner?

*Joyce Stork
Vice-Chairman
Awards Committee*

- This person is the hardest-working member of AVSA that you have ever met.
- This person is a real leader.
- This person belongs to your club, and has done more to help your club be successful than anyone else.
- This person deserves some recognition and a really nice gift!

Do you know who this person is? Then ask the secretary of your club or affiliate to submit this name for the Mabel and Glenn Hudson Memorial Award!

The Hudson Award is a very special award that can only be given to persons who show outstanding leadership in their affiliated chapter. While other AVSA awards reward service to the national society, this award is for service to the local group.

The Awards Committee is always seeking nominees for this important award. Award winners receive beautiful gifts especially chosen for them. All nominations should be sent to Esther Edwards Wells, 948 Fair Oaks Court, Liberty, MO 64068.

Do you know who this person is? Give this person a reward they'll never forget!

15, 1991; for magazines and newsletters, send a complete year's offerings to The Hi Country Judges Workshop, Janice Sorensen, 8357 E. Jamison Circle, Englewood, CO 80112. The deadline is also January 15, 1991.

To all of our friends and readers we send our very best wishes for a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.

ATTN: HYBRIDIZERS

*J. R. Pittman
12406 Alexandria
San Antonio, TX 78233*

It's later than you think ... time once again to get the cameras out and take slides of your new cultivars for the Santa Clara AVSA Convention.

I will be doing the program of new cultivars at the Saturday luncheon. This is your opportunity to show off your new introductions to the hundreds of people in attendance. This is a great chance for some free advertising.

I must have your slides by April 1, 1991, so I can work up the program. I would like a slide of the plant and a close-up of the blossom, if possible. Please include a description of the plant. You may send as many as you like and I will try to work them into the program.

The convention in Santa Clara is our golden opportunity to show off "Violets in The Golden State." The dates are April 22nd-28th, 1991.

Send your slides to:
*J. R. Pittman
12406 Alexandria
San Antonio, TX 78233*



PLUM VELVET
CUTIE

Judie Lalanne • Englewood, CO



Registration Report

Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway
Hollywood, FL 33019



EDITOR'S NOTE: The new Plant Registration Chairman is Iris Keating, 149 Loretto Court, Claremont, CA 91711. Please send all correspondence in regard to registration to her, effective immediately.

Reservations are good for a two year period and cost \$1.00. They may be renewed for one more two year period. Registrations cost \$5.00 unless you have paid for a reservation and it is still within the two year period. The cost is then \$4.00.

REGISTRATIONS

Candy Russell, Houston, TX

***HORTENSE PITTMAN** - Miniature - Double two tone pink. Tommie Lou variegated pointed foliage. #7377 5/26/90

Floyd Lawson, Arcadia, CA

***D'ARTAGNAN** - Standard - Double deep purple fringed, pansy shape with green edge. Medium green, ruffled foliage. #7378 6/1/90

Hortense Pittman, San Antonio, TX

***DAZZLE TRAIL** - Semiminiature trailer - Double lavender/pink with purple fantasy. Dark green plain foliage. #7379 6/4/90

***HAND MADE** - Semiminiature - Semidouble purple. Dark green variegated plain foliage. #7380 6/4/90

***KID KARLA** - Semiminiature - Semidouble light blue. Tommie Lou variegated light green foliage. #7381 6/4/90

***MINI PA PA** - Semiminiature - Semidouble

blue. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, plain foliage. #7382 6/4/90

***MOON BRIGHT** - Semiminiature - Semidouble white with purple edge. Light green plain foliage. #7383 6/4/90

***ROYAL RICH** - Semiminiature - Semidouble purple. Medium green, plain foliage. #7384 6/4/90

***SWING ALONG** - Semiminiature - Double rosy pink. Dark green, plain foliage. #7385 6/4/90

***TIPPED HONEY** - Semiminiature - Double ruby red with dogwood tips. Dark green, plain foliage, red reverse. #7386 6/4/90

***TOPSY** - Semiminiature - Semidouble fringed rose. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green, slightly wavy foliage. #7387 6/4/90

Alan Murphy, Roseville, CA

***ALAN'S BABY BONNET** - Miniature - Single sticktight navy blue with geneva pencil edge. Dark green, pointed, hairy, glossy foliage, red reverse. #7388 7/2/90

***ALYSSA** - Miniature - Single white. Very light green plain foliage. #7389 7/2/90

***AMOEBA** - Miniature - Double dark blue. Medium green, glossy foliage. #7390 7/2/90

***BOBBIE SOX BELLS** - Miniature trailer - Single medium blue bell. Medium green pointed foliage. #7391 7/2/90

***BOKAY CORRAL** - Miniature - Double

fringed white. Light green, smooth, wavy foliage. #7392 7/2/90

***CHIMPANSY** - Miniature - Single ruffled two tone fuchsia bell often with white center stripe and dogwood tips. Light green, wavy, glossy foliage, light red reverse. #7393 7/2/90

***KRYSTLE-N** - Miniature - Double white with blue pencil edge. Light green, glossy, slightly ruffled foliage. #7394 7/2/90

***MURPHY'S LAW** - Miniature trailer - Double blue and white. Light green, quilted foliage. #7395 7/2/90

***MURPHY'S ROMANCE** - Semiminiature - Double ruffled light lavender two tone with medium lavender eye and edge. Medium green, quilted foliage. #7396 7/2/90

***STREISAND** - Semiminiature - Double light lavender with darker fantasy markings. Dark green pointed foliage, red reverse. #7397 7/2/90

***WEDDING BELL BLUES** - Miniature - Single dark blue bell. Medium green, glossy, heart-shaped foliage. #7398 7/2/90

Nancy Johnston, Bakersfield, CA

***BLUSHING BRIDE** - Semiminiature - Single sticktight blush pink bell, slightly darker eye. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, ovate foliage. #7408 7/16/90

***DARK OF NIGHT** - Semiminiature - Double dark purple. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green, quilted foliage, silver pink reverse. #7399 7/5/90

***ESTELLE'S LEGACY** - Standard - Single sticktight bright pink with purple fantasy. Dark green, quilted foliage. #7409 7/16/90

***LITTLE CHERRY KISSES** - Semiminiature - Double red/fuchsia. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, quilted foliage. #7400 7/5/90

***LITTLE COQUETTE** - Miniature - Double two tone rose pink. Dark green, ovate, girl foliage, red reverse. #7401 7/5/90

***LITTLE STAR FIRE** - Semiminiature - Single sticktight fuchsia red, sometimes with white tips. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green, heartshaped foliage, red reverse. #7402 7/5/90

***PINK BUTTERCUP** - Semiminiature - Single sticktight old rose with fuchsia edge and tips. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green, strawberry foliage with dark red reverse. #7403 7/5/90

Harold Dean Hobbs, San Antonio, TX

***DEAN'S CUPID** - Semiminiature - Semi-double deep blue. Tommie Lou variegated, serrated, heartshaped foliage. #7404 7/10/90

***DEAN'S KITTEN** - Semiminiature - Single pink with orchid eye. Dark green plain foliage, red reverse. #7405 7/10/90

***DEAN'S PETITE** - Semiminiature - Single red. Tommie Lou variegated, plain foliage. #7406 7/10/90

***DEAN'S WILDFIRE** - Semiminiature - Single cerise (red). Tommie Lou variegated heart-shaped foliage. #7407 7/10/90

Bob Sanger, Sebring, FL

***NORMA LENA** - Standard - Semidouble purple pansy with pale green fringed edge. Medium green, ruffled, glossy foliage. #7410 7/18/90

Yvonne Lambert, Tottenham, Ontario, Canada

***LILITH** - Semiminiature - Single/semidouble pink with fuchsia overlay. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, quilted foliage. #7411 8/13/90

J C Munk, Houston, TX

***APACHE BEAUTY** - Standard - Semidouble pink two tone fringed pansy, darker upper petals. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green plain foliage. #7412 8/25/90

***APACHE CHIEF** - Large - Semidouble raspberry fringed pansy. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, quilted foliage. #7413 8/25/90

***APACHE DIAMOND** - Standard - Semidouble wavy raspberry star. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green ruffled foliage. #7414

8/25/90

*APACHE FESTIVAL - Standard - Semidouble fringed rose pink pansy. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green, wavy foliage. #7415 8/25/90

*APACHE JEWEL - Standard - Semidouble two tone lavender fringed pansy, dark eye and top petal edges. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green ruffled foliage. #7416 8/25/90

*APACHE RANGER - Standard - Semidouble blue-purple with wavy geneva edge. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, serrated, wavy, quilted foliage. #7417 8/25/90

*APACHE SECRET - Standard - Semidouble fringed white pansy. Plain medium green foliage. #7418 8/25/90

*APACHE TARGET - Standard - Doubled fringed purple. Tommie Lou variegated ruffled foliage, red reverse. #7419 8/25/90

*APACHE WARBONNET - Standard - Semidouble ruffled reddish purple, geneva edge. Tommie Lou variegated, dark green plain foliage. #7420 8/25/90

*APACHE WARPAINT - Standard - Double red-violet fantasy with flecks of white and pink. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green, plain foliage. #7421 8/25/90

*APACHE WINTER - Standard - Semidouble very pale pink to white star. Tommie Lou variegated, medium green plain foliage. #7422 8/25/90

REGISTRATION CORRECTIONS

*STOLEN DREAM - Large - Semidouble dark blue fantasy splashed with pink spots. Variegated, medium green, quilted foliage. #7040 1/9/89

NAME RESERVATIONS

Jeannette Domiano, Terrytown, LA

* Allons Danser * Bayou Serenade * Black Magic Woman * Bless You Boys * Cajun Sunshine * Crawfish Town * Crescent City Connection * Dark Splendor * English Turn * Italian Open * Jolie Blonde * Moonshine Madness * Naughty But Nice * Paquet Rouge * Party Hardy * Pussy-

footin' * Reckless Abandon * Sophie's Beloved * Southern Elegance * Southern Sapphire * Steamy Windows * Tickle My Fancy * Whiskey Bay

Ruby Cox, Bethany, MO

* Brittany Dawn * California Berries * City Slicker * Coffey Cream * Fruit Salad * Hopeful Hannah * Midnight Eyes * Miss Dainty * Ohio Heritage * Red Headed Jate * Snowed In

Judie Lalanne, Englewood, CO

* Coral Breeze * Loupy Lou * Splash Splash

Brenda Posey, Hoover, AL

* Blue Light Special

Yvonne Lambert, Tottenham, Ontario, Canada

* Symphonette * Von's Busy Bea

Barbara Elkin, Auburn, CA

* Quiet Dreams * Quiet Waters

Dottie Wilson, Bryan, TX

* Fairlight

NAME RESERVATION RENEWALS

J C Munk, Houston, TX

* Apache Arrow * Apache Arrowpoint * Apache Bandana * Apache Bird * Apache Brave * Apache Broken Bow * Apache Canoe * Apache Country * Apache Dancer * Apache Eyes * Apache Face * Apache Falcon * Apache Fame * Apache Flare * Apache Flash * Apache Flintrock * Apache Footsteps * Apache Friendship * Apache Glory * Apache Hatchet * Apache Hunter * Apache Liberty * Apache Mountain * Apache Paint * Apache Peace * Apache Pony * Apache Raiders * Apache Rainbow * Apache Silver * Apache Skybird * Apache Spring * Apache Stars * Apache Summer * Apache Sunburst * Apache Sundance * Apache Sunflower * Apache Sunset * Apache Sweetheart * Apache Thunder * Apache Treasure * Apache Twilight

Grooming Miniature African Violets

Marjorie Armstrong

When working with miniature and semiminiature African violets, it is extremely helpful to have the proper tools. A good pair of scissors can be invaluable for the difficult grooming required on miniature varieties.

Maintenance includes constantly removing spent blooms and bloom stalks, damaged leaves and often daily gentle grooming. It is very easy to damage the foliage by poking it quite accidentally with a fingernail.

Reaching under the foliage to remove anything should be done only with long sharp scissors or tweezers. I have found several types of scissors quite helpful in grooming the miniatures. Small embroidery scissors work well and so do lab scissors. I found the latter in a college bookstore.

I have discovered that whatever you are using, be sure to place the scissors where you want them, keeping them tightly closed. When you are inside the plant at the exact spot, then and only then, open the scissors to clip or trim. It is very easy to pierce the foliage with the tips.

Various kinds of cutting blades may be found and are very useful in removing leaves or suckers or when root pruning. Please use care when working with blades.

The sucker-plucker is quite a handy tool. It enables you to reach into the base of the plant and neatly slice off any suckers without damaging other parts of the plant.

Long narrow tweezers are very useful. These may be found in various plant supply catalogs; however, I found mine at a sewing shop.

You may find tools in the Art sections of bookstores. Art supplies include fine brushes for cleaning the dust from your foliage. I do not wash my foliage. In order to keep it clean and healthy, I brush the foliage gently, prior to watering. This routine keeps the foliage looking beautiful.

One of the most useful "tools" I use regularly is a meat baster for all my watering. I can gently reach up under the foliage or between the leaves to direct the water or fertilizer solution exactly where I want it. I wet down the entire surface of the soil surrounding the crown but I never wet the foliage at the crown. I wet only the soil—not the foliage. I must admit that this method works well for me. I have never had a case of crown rot when growing African violets.

This is also important since the miniatures and semiminiatures are being grown relatively close to the lights and drops on the foliage may result in burns. Many of the miniatures are so small with just 2-3 rows of leaves and any damage to the crown may destroy the plant.

I hope that some of these ideas help you when growing your miniature African violets. They are a joy to grow.

(Reprinted with permission, *Violet Connection*, the newsletter of the Ohio State African Violet Society.)

Update Your
Judges Handbook —
Order the
1990 Revised pages
today!

Cost - \$3.50 postpaid

If you have the 1986 Handbook with the yellow cover, you need the 1990 Revised pages.

Send \$3.50 to the AVSA Office.

"Golden Oldies" In Miniature

Dolores S. Larsen
10503 SE 232nd Street
Kent, Washington 98031

The *Saintpaulia* species believed to be the smallest, *S. pusilla*, is not now in cultivation, but *S. shumensis* is of miniature size. *S. brevipilosa* is not a large plant and if *S. confusa* were grown as a single crown plant, it would not be large. The smallest of the caulescent (trailing) species is *S. goetzeana* and *S. magungensis* var. *minima*.

Although *S. pusilla* is now unknown in cultivation it was first discovered in 1898 and was also collected in 1932, 1933 and in both January and November of 1953. If this species were so "elusive" in cultivation it is unfortunate that more care was not taken to protect it after those rediscoveries. Although I've read of no claims made that it was ever used in hybridizing, it seems that it could have been possible.

Another of the smaller species no longer in cultivation is *S. inconspicua*, discovered in 1932 and again in 1934. Little is known about this one except that it was a rather untidy plant with very small blossoms, not very noticeable.

All or some of these may have been used in hybridizing efforts to obtain miniature plants; however, it is doubtful that *S. goetzeana* was ever used because of its reluctance to bloom. The late Bill Johnson (AVM, Ask Your Hybridizer columnist) once told me that dwarfness is a dominant trait. In crossing two miniatures, some seedlings may be of standard size if the parents had recessive standard genes.

Trailing types with small leaves could have been used to produce miniatures (the trailing habit is a recessive trait). As in all hybridizing there must be recrossing and backcrossing until finally the desired seedling is obtained. At this time, AVSA does not recognize "micromini" as a classification and has requested that this word not be used as a size category. The small size of the leaves may be used in descriptions, but at least for now, these plants are to be called miniatures.

There are miniature and semiminiature trail-

ers, but because trailers must have at least three crowns (in shows) these plants take more space than the single crown plants. The size category to which they belong is determined by their leaf size.

The first trailers were of standard size, using *S. grotei* as a parent. There was no category for trailers when Tinari's registered the first five trailers on December 31, 1954, so these were listed as either standard or large. (If your curiosity demands more history on the first trailers, you may refer to an article in the September 1960 AVM, "Tinari's Trailers.")

First hybridizing goals were to produce larger and larger plants with larger and larger blossoms. Many of us still favor the large plants and there is no denying that a large well-grown plant in full bloom is a sight to behold! With all their beauty there is one disadvantage — we can not grow as many different ones as we would like because of their size! They take up too much space, so we must deny ourselves those additional beautiful plants. Is that why those small plants, the miniatures, have had such a popularity explosion?

Many clubs have a special class for the older cultivars in their shows. In Seattle we call them "Golden Oldies."

Do you know that AVSA registration through March 1, 1963, had only 34 miniatures registered? Did you know that, at that time, miniatures and semiminiatures were both grouped together as miniatures, 6" or under? At that time standards were 7-12" and those over 12" were very large standards. (Miniatures now are those 6" or under; semiminiatures are 6-8"; standards 8-16" in diameter and those over 16" are the very large, some growing as large as 38-40".)

Fifteen of those first registrations have been reclassified as semiminiatures and three were changed to standard. That leaves only 16 of

those first registered still described as miniatures.

The following alphabetical list of *miniatures* was extracted from the complete registration list printed in the AVM, Vol. 16, No. 5, July 1963 and includes only those *registered* to March 1, 1963. (Others may have been grown without

being registered.) The registered names are listed together with registration numbers, then the date of registration and the hybridizer. One asterisk preceding the name denotes that this plant is now listed as a semiminature and two asterisks means that the plant is now listed as a standard:

<u>Plant Name</u>	<u>Reg. #</u>	<u>Date Reg.</u>	<u>Hybridizer</u>
* Baby Girl Spoon	20	1/15/51	Kellar
Baby Helen	21	11/2/52	Select Violet House/Baxter
Buttons and Bows	83	8/1/51	Silcott
Diane	172	8/14/50	Anderson
Frathel's Mardi Gras	890	4/15/57	Frathel
* Frathel's Most Precious	905	7/5/57	Frathel
** French Lace	812	9/1/56	Madison Gardens
Gay Coquette	250	4/8/54	Granger Gardens
* Hawaiian Eye	1277	6/19/62	Kramer
** Hypatica	292	8/25/52	Anderson
* Little Geneva Princess	342	11/2/52	Select Violet House/Baxter
Lulu Belle	844	12/17/56	Richter's Greenhouse
* Miss Lou	786	6/20/56	Morgan
Oklahoma	1050	11/22/59	Madison Gardens
* Perfection	451	2/12/51	Hendrix
* Pink Cutie	462	4/3/50	Bottrell
P. T. Dawn	1067	9/18/58	Edena Gardens
* P. T. Lasso	1103	1/24/59	Edena Gardens
P. T. Pierrot	968	11/30/57	Edena Gardens
Queen of Hearts	502	8/27/51	Green
* Rainbow Doll	771	4/4/56	Rivenburg
* Red Elfin Girl	512	3/17/53	Wilson
Rose Perfection	541	2/17/52	Hendrix
* Silver Token	585	4/10/54	Granger Gardens
Sky Blue Princess	1053	7/20/58	Madison Gardens
** Snow Princess	593	8/7/50	Kunkel
Sweetpea Pink	855	2/1/57	Smithson
Tiny Doll	634	3/14/53	Nelson
* T-V Bunnyhop	715	11/25/55	Vallin
Velva	1042	7/18/58	Stitely
* Violette Baby Doll	657	1/9/51	Kellar
Violette Bronze Baby	658	1/9/51	Kellar
* Violette Pixie	659	1/9/51	Kellar
* Yellow Fringe	1058	7/20/58	Madison Gardens

A Family Portrait

Georgene Albrecht
101 Oak Heights Drive
Oakdale, PA 15071



Diastema vexans

Diastemas are said to resent the heat of summer, yet, they have done fine in my basement light garden temperatures of 68 to 90 degrees. Small-growing *Diastema vexans* (digh ah STEE ma VEX ans) requires little care, blooms through the spring-summer season and does not seem to be as sensitive to pollution as reputed. Grown under lights, the three-quarter inch long tubular flowers are held well above the foliage. If the plant receives too much light, the blooms will remain under the leaves. Growth is compact if placed about 12 inches below the center of two tubes lighted 12 hours a day. These tubes are old, now new. Foliage bleaches on *Diastemas* if new tubes are used. Leaves are thin, pointed and ovate, colored a hue of green which is difficult to describe and to capture on film. My husband says it might be called a light olive with a pink overlay.

Now, this plant description isn't going to set the gesneriad heart aflutter, but it is a charming bloom on a three-inch plant. I have read that they need as little as 250 footcandles but they are much more handsome grown at triple the light. As with most scaly rhizomatous gesneriads, they have periods of dormancy. One can root cuttings easily and these will bloom while the parent plant sleeps.

A small margarine tub with drainage holes can make the ideal pot. They have very shallow root systems. *Diastemas* tend to roam. Elongated growth may need to be pinned back into the tub with an old-fashioned hairpin, not a bobby pin. Impending dormancy is signaled when lower leaves yellow and blooms are scarce. Slowly cut back on watering and do not use fertilizer. *Diastemas* need fresh soil each



growing season. Rhizomes store well in plastic bags of vermiculite held around 60 degrees.

Cultural Notes

Every summer thrips seem to show their ugly face in my violet blooms. Systemic pesticides do not enter the reproductive organs where thrips feed. Spraying continuously will blemish the foliage. When pollen is seen falling from the sacs, isolate the plant immediately. Remove the flowers and cover the plant with plastic wrap. Thrips cannot get out, nor can they get onto a plant. The wrap is so light that rising blooms just push it upward. This also keeps dust off the plant. Make sure a fan is running so that air circulation is good when it is warm. It doesn't look very nice but looks aren't everything. Thrips are very attracted to the yellow sticky tapes and strips designed to trap flying insects. They are especially effective when hung from light fixtures.

Physan, Consan in Canada, has been a wonderful help in combating harmful bacteria in

plantlife. Orchid seedlings have routinely been bathed in this solution when unflasked. Studies now show that growth is stunted by the practice. Unless a problem is present, curtail the use until it is really necessary.

A reader has also informed me that there has been a change in the label directions for Superthrive, that wonderful vitamin and hormone formula. Once again, be cautious. The dosage does seem to be increased. Please remember, too, that Superthrive is *not* a fertilizer, it is a growth stimulant. A constant supply of balanced nutrients is absolutely mandatory for a plant when stimulated into growth spurts. Once, my plants were overly-stimulated and underfed, turning foliage bronze and producing an overabundance of very small blooms which did not open. Growth was also stunted, lower leaves were sacrificed and root systems turned brown. When the stimulation was removed and the soil flushed, we fertilized with a balanced 10-15-10 formula and soon the centers became normal. Light foliar food at this time is also helpful but root feeding must be of equal strength.

Peter Hopley

For several years this wonderful gentleman from Tanzania, East Africa, has sent the most fascinating scenario about his adventures in collecting the species *Saintpaulia* and other *Gesneriaceae*. Recently, his collection was stolen. He had, with the help of Mrs. Silva Mather of Kenya, identified 18 species, 15 from Tanzania and three from Kenya. He was hoping to receive information from the Royal Botanical Gardens which help define several others which he could not place. Mr. Hopley would like to send a paper telling about the location, altitude, day and night temperatures and humidity at which each species grows. He would like to have this information in the files of the "African Violet Museum" which Irene Fredette and others maintain. He also says, "...some of the localities have had name changes and some are wrongly spelt, e.g. TWIANI incorrect, the name is TURI-ANI. I feel that what I have seen and learnt should be passed over to others who haven't the opportunity to come and see for themselves..."

I have nothing to compare his lifestyle to mine, but this man has patiently grown

Saintpaulias for the pure love of a beautiful plant. His collecting, at times, had to wait for long periods of time because the land was under quarantine for diseases we haven't heard of for decades. He has found *Streptocarpus saxorum* at Mt. Lolkisaali and also *S. kerckii* elsewhere. Let me quote from his letter, "... they [the streps] are not new, but it's good to know they are still found in their original habitats, although *saxorum* will disappear as they want to build a post office there ..." Mr. Hopley has asked me to see if some of my friends would send him seeds from *Gesneriads*. He would be so appreciative. If you can, would you consider sending them to me and I will forward them. Mailing precautions must be taken and postage is expensive. He would like most any seed but I think the New World and some hybrid seeds might be those of great interest. I'll try to get a few from the Seed Fund at AGGS. I did not ask permission to publish his address or you could have sent the seed directly.

Gesneriad Research Foundation

For those of you who are interested in the ultimate Gesneriad venture, consider collecting expeditions led by Dr. Hans Wiegler. The Gesneriad Research Foundation, 1873 Oak Street, Sarasota, Florida 34236, houses a collection of species and adds to them when species are found on trips. Volunteers and membership all contribute to maintenance and also to the botanical illustration of these plants. Membership is \$25.00. Destruction of the tropical forests takes a great toll on gesneriads since 90% of the more than 3,000 species grow in the tropics.

Another Source

This firm, Les Violettes Natalia, send me a wonderful listing featuring an extensive collection of great Gesneriads and *Saintpaulia*, but I regret that it was received too late to include in the earlier list of sources. Their catalogue is \$2.00 nonrefundable. They have two addresses:

Les Violettes Natalia phone (819) 889-3235
124 Ch. Grapes, Sawerville, QC,
Canada J0B 3A0
or
P. O. Box 206
Beecher Falls, VT 05902-02-6 USA

Affiliate 'appenings

*Lyndall Owens
P. O. Box 288
Beaumont, TX 77704*



JEFFERSON AV ASSN, LA — "It's Raining Violets." Wynne Voorhees, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Opt. New York, Black Happy Cricket*, 2nd best in show, *Opt. New York*, best trailer, *Sky Diver, Gail Borne*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Redlands Pride, The King, Sandia Rose, Barbara Rome*; best in show, *Snowfire, Diana Seifert*; best miniature, *Awesome Al*, best semi, *My Friend Phung*, best gesneriad, *E. hirsuta*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Genelle & Al Armstrong*; best design, "Sunny Side of the Street," Wynne Voorhees.

BATON ROUGE AVS, LA — "Violets in the Gay Nineties." Shirley Gomez, chairman. Winners: Best in show, *Cactus Rose*, 2nd AVSA collection, *Cactus Rose, This Bud's Mine, Granger's Wonderland, Josie Ragusa*; 2nd best in show, *Ragusa Special*, best gesneriad, *Codonanthus Aurora*, best trailer, *Dazzle Trail, Fran Spear*; best miniature, *Little Rose Quartz*, president's collection, *Bogeyman, Teen Craze, Snuggles Little Dreamer, Ruth Jones*; best design, "Ye Olde Sweet Shoppe," best AVSA collection, *Picasso, Mary Craig, Kilauea, Denise Lindsly*; best DAVS collection, *Precious Pink, Lovely Linda, Teen Dream*, sweepstakes, Penny Brenner.

ORANGE COUNTY AVS, CA — "Violets in the Gay Nineties." Ed & Myrna Hoefer, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Fredette's Bethesda, Jean-Pierre Croteau, Granger's Wonderland, Dale Martens*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Ms Pretty Pink, French Lilac, Something Special*, best in show, *French Lilac*, 2nd best in show, *Ms Pretty Pink*, best miniature, *Blueberry Swirl*, best semi, *Bogeyman*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Dorothy Kosowsky*; best design, "Family Heirloom," *Marti Wright*; best trailer, *Buck-eye Trail*, sweepstakes (design), *Cathy Garich*; best gesneriad, *Nematanthus Green Gold, Marna Streipens*.

SUBURBAN AV FRIENDS, CA — "Violets - Peninsula Style." Jane A. Clay, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Opt. Wyoming, Opt. Julia, Opt. Juliana*, 2nd best in show, *Opt. Julia, Helen Robertson*; best in show, *Chiffon Margareta, Sherry S*; best design, "Japanese Tea Garden," *Evelyn Allustriari*; best trailer, *Pixie Blue*, best semi, *Dizzy Lizzy*, sweepstakes, *Thelma Walther*; best miniature, *Ness's Sno Fun, Jane Clay*; best gesneriad, *Streptocarpus, Margie Benson*.

BELLFLOWER AVS, CA — "A Rainbow of Violets." Yvette Homan & Joan Chambers, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Rob's Shadow Magic, Rob's Diamond Chips, Rob's Whimsical*, 2nd best in show, *Rob's Shadow Magic*, best design, "Stormy Weather," best trailer, *Rob's Sticky Wicket*, best miniature, *Dawn Michelle*, best semi, *Rob's Shadow Magic*, best gesneriad, *Sinningia Razzmatazz*, sweepstakes, *Yvette Homan*; best in show, *Concord, Ruth Lankford*.

AVS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA — "Silver Celebration." Norma Dougall, chairman. Winners: Best in show, *Frances Young, Mary Galipo*; 2nd best in show, *Dixie Celebration, Lola Goode*; best collection, *Precious Pink, Bright Honey, Snuggles*, best miniature, *Precious Pink, Reiko Lee*; best trailer, *Mellow Trail, Elsie Wann*; best gesneriad, *Sinningia pusilla, Lola Goode*; best arrangement, "Silver Celebration," *Evelyn Brown*.

TORONTO AVS, ONTARIO, CANADA — "Violets Centre Stage." Mrs. Jean Hamilton, chairman. Winners: *Rob's Sticky Wicket, Karen Linda, Pixie Blue*, best semi, *Precious Pink, Eleanor & Bill Robertson*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Happy Cricket, Katsuko, Opt. New Mexico*, sweepstakes (48 blue ribbons), *Beverly Britt*; best in show, *Concord*, 2nd best in show, *Falling Snow*, best trailer, *Falling Snow*, best miniature, *Everdina*, best gesneriad, *Chirita sinensis Hisaka, Betty Tapping*; best design, "The Ballet," *Yvonne Lambert*; sweepstakes (tie for design with 8 blue ribbons), *Eleanor Elston*; sweepstakes (tie for design with 8 blue ribbons), *Inez Wolfe*.

AVS OF SYRACUSE, NY — "Violet Potpourri." Jim Wildman, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Hot Jazz, Skagit Small Favorite, Beginner's Luck*, best miniature, *Skagit Lil Bonns*, best semi, *Skagit Small Favorite*, best gesneriad, *Aesch. Tricolor, Donna Coleman*; 2nd best in show, *Country Girl*, best trailer, *Ramblin Lavender, Ethel Champion*; best in show, *Antique Elegance, Kanen Dupree*; best design, sweepstakes, *Ruth Meek*.

OLD DOMINION AVS OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA — "Saintpaulia - Citizen of the World." Laurene Jones, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Sundown Trail, Milky Way Trail, Dancin' Trail*, best in show, *Sundown Trail*, best trailer, *Sundown Trail*, best semi, *Happy Teen*, best gesneriad, *Sinningia Foxfire*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Bev Promersberger*; 2nd best in show, *Magenta Lou, Vernon Janisch*; best design, "Monaco," best semi, *Opt. Little Diamond*, sweepstakes (design), *Laurene Jones*.

SAN MATEO COUNTY AVS, CA — "In Tune With Music." Thelma Walther, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Magic Blue, Rob's Quixotic Lad, Snuggles*, best in show, *Magic Blue*, best semi, *Everdina*, best semi, *Magic Blue, Jo Anna Behl*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Phantom Flash, Kiwi Dazzle, Redlands Pride*, sweepstakes, *Enid Wood*; best western, *Celine Chase*; sweepstakes (design), "Poor Butterfly," *Heather Morgan*.

MID-SOUTH AVS, TN — "Victorian Violets." Patricia F. White, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Bolero, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, Old Dominion Sparkler, Martha Page*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Swifty Thriller, Midnight Magic, Fisherman's Paradise*, best in show, *Swifty Thriller, Evelyn Kelly*; 2nd best in show, *Rhode Island*, best

miniature, *Rob's Sno Blossom*, best semi, *Snuggles*, Dale Monnard; best design, "Oh La La," *Cecelia York*; best trailer, *Pixie Blue*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Linda Miller; best gesneriad, *Little Gem*, Judy Ellis; sweepstakes (design), Ginger Ilardi.

ASSOCIATION DES AMATEURS DE VIOLETTES AFRICAINES DE MONTREAL, CANADA — "L'ile aux trésors." Thérèse Decelles, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Happy Cricket*, *Nortex's Valentine Haven*, ACA's *Red Delight*, *Yvon Decelles*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Snuggles*, *Precious Pink*, *Beginner's Luck*, best in show, *Prince of Dixie*, 2nd best in show, *Outrage*, best semi, *Beginner's Luck*, sweepstakes (horticulture, 57 blue ribbons), Thérèse Decelles; best design, "La Caverne," *Anne Herbatuk*; best trailer, *Trail Alone*, *Denyse Chevrefils*; best miniature, *Merrilee*, *Micheline Frechette*; best gesneriad, *Episcia Kee Wee*, *Jean-Guy Chevrier*.

AV CLUB OF BURLINGTON COUNTY, NJ — "The Impossible Dream Comes True." Dorothy Taylor & Rita Perzeproski, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Opt. Manitoba*, *Opt. New Mexico*, *Tiger*, 2nd best in show, *Rob's Blue Light*, best miniature, *Opt. Little Apatite*, best semi, *Rob's Blue Light*, best gesneriad, *Nematanthus Black Gold*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Rita Perzeproski; best in show, *S. diplotricha Punter*, *Laurel Brown*; best design, "Reach for the Stars," Susan Arnao.

VENTURA COUNTY AVS, CA — "Violet Chronicles." Marcia Shaver & Chuck Alvarez, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Picasso*, *Fredette's Moonflower*, *Lady Baltimore*, best in show, *Picasso*, *Marla Henderson*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Granger's Wonderland*, *Something Special*, *Mary Craig*, 2nd best in show, *Mary Craig*, best gesneriad, *E. Blue Nile*, *Sherry Plisky*; best design, "A Star is Born," best semi, *Shutterbug*, *Florence Naylor*; best trailer, *Rosebud Trail*, best miniature, *Petite Jewel*, *Marcia Shaver*; sweepstakes (horticulture & design), Ann Wang.

NIAGARA FRONTIER AVS, NY — "Violets Start the 90s." Donald Miller, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection (amateur), *Midnight Magic*, *Sedona*, *Opt. Trinidad*, best design, "Laser Age," best miniature, *Snow Cone*, sweepstakes (horticulture & design), Jim Smith; best AVSA collection (commercial), *Rob's Blue Moon*, *Rob's Copper Cat*, *Rob's Whimsical*, best in show, *Rob's Blue Moon*, 2nd best in show, *Rob's Silver Spook*, best trailer, *Rob's Stickey Wicket*, best semi, *Rob's Blue Moon*, best gesneriad, *Coltricantha Midget*, Ralph Robinson.

THE BALTIMORE AV CLUB, MD — "Violets in Toyland." Dianne Good, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Memories*, *Marcus*, *Magic*, 2nd best in show, *Memories*, Margaret Harcourt; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Pink Cameo*, *Phantom Flash*, *Bertha*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Diane Richardson; best in show, *Mystery*, best miniature, *Baby Colors*, *Marie Burns*; best design, "Tea Party," sweepstakes (design), best gesneriad, *Nemantanthus Cherio*, *Betty Lages*; best trailer, *Sunnyvale Trail*, best semi, *Hutzler's Baby*, Rochelle Armstrong.

STAMPEDE CITY AVS, CALGARY, CANADA — "Treasure Chest of Violets." Ingrid Nelson, chairman. Winners: Best in show, *Drika's Purple Tiger*, Ingrid Nelson; 2nd best in show, *Pink 'N Ink*, Helen Towler; best design, "Yo Ho Ho & A Bottle of Rum," best miniature, *Opt. Little Sapphire*, best gesneriad, *Strep. Black Magic*, sweepstakes (design), Erica Hargesheimer; best trailer, *Brazo's Bells*,

Joan Faraway; best semi, *Petite Mandy*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Susan Wonnacott.

AVS OF PHILADELPHIA — "Violets Sweet Pleasures." Wayne Kelly, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Sea Princess*, *Rob's April Storm*, *Little Katherine*, best in show, *Rob's April Storm*, best semi, *Rob's April Storm*, *Mary Grace Spilman*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Majestic*, *Zapped*, *Snow Rose*, Judy Smith; 2nd best in show, *Kid Karla*, best design, "Sweet Violets," best miniature, *Ballet Blue Ice*, best gesneriad, *Chrysanthemis Pulchella*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Peggy DePhillippo; best trailer, *Foxwood Trail*, *Betsy Hansberger*; sweepstakes (design), Betty Lowery.

SHO-ME AVS, MO — "Violets Singing in the Rain." Kitty Julia & Coleen Coolley, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Mindi Brooke*, *Louise Croteau*, *Snow Rose*, best in show, *Snow Rose*, 2nd best in show, *Ms. Pretty*, best trailer, *Sundown Trail*, best miniature, *Ballet Blueberry Swirl*, best semi, *Bogeyman*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Pat Richards; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Weebe*, *Snuggles Clown*, *Snuggles*, Carol Allinson; best design, "Spring Bounty," sweepstakes (design), Rebecca Poindexter; best gesneriad, *Nematanthus Christmas Holly*, Johnnie Proctor.

AVS OF SPRINGFIELD — "Up, Up, and Away with African Violets." Barbara Jones & Bettie Roth, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Texas Dynamo*, *Wrangler's Jealous Heart*, *Nortex's Snowkist Haven*, 2nd best in show, *Wrangler's Jealous Heart*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Betty Girvin; best in show, *S. Pendula*, best trailer, *S. Pendula*, best miniature, *Taffy*, best semi, *Crushed Velvet*, best gesneriad, *Columnea California Golf*, Barbara Jones; best design, "Mobile - Blowin' in the Wind," sweepstakes (design), Debbie Schaffer.

CHARLOTTETOWN AVS, CANADA — "Violets, Sno-Foolin'." Hilda Lewis, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Something Special*, *Mystique*, *Mark*, best design, "Our Irish Heritage," best miniature, *Rob's Bedazzled*, best semi, *Winnie Woo*, sweepstakes (horticulture, design), Hilda Lewis; best in show, *L'Ambassadeur*, 2nd best in show, *Polaris*, Shirley MacKinnon; best trailer, *Fancy Trail*, Norma Newson; best gesneriad, *Columnea Early Bird*, Freeman Newson.

SILVERMINE AVS, CT — "A Rainbow of Violets." Lynn Wallach & Frenchie Everitt, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Ness's Viking Maiden*, *Ming Blue*, *Opt. Louisiana*, 2nd best in show, *Ness's Viking Maiden*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Helen O*, Julie Bacon; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Tiger*, *Splendiferous*, *Rhapsodie Roxanna*, best in show, *Ness's Bungle Blue*, best trailer, *Dancin Trail*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Lynn Wallach; best miniature, *Opt. Little Rose Quartz*, best semi, *Beginners Luck*, Jane Shearer; best design (tie), "Nature's Bounty," *Mabel Evans*; "End of the Rainbow," Michael Luongo.

AVS OF UTAH — "AVS and the Gay Nineties." Winners: Best in show, *Snow Rose*, 2nd best in show, *Redland's Pride*, best trailer, *Always Pink*, best gesneriad, *Bright Eyes*, Edythe Crandall; best miniature, *Dawn Michelle*, sweepstakes (design), Eva Goodfellow; best semi, *Beginner's Luck*, *Marie Jones*; best AVSA collection, *Ballet Marta*, *Ms. Pretty*, *Country Lilacs*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Betty Anderson.

HUDSON HIGHLANDS AVS, NY — "Days of Wine and Violets." Kel Seberle, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA

collection, *Rhapsodie Roxanna*, *Granger's Desert Dawn*, *Opt. Alaska*, best in show, *Rhapsodie Roxanna*, best gesneriad, *Strep. Nancy*, *Barbara Perrott*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Silver Lining*, *Lavender Lace*, *Opt. Trinidad*, sweepstakes (horticulture & design), *Bruce Turnbull*; 2nd best in show, *Baby Sunshine*, best miniature, *Baby Sunshine*, *Kel Seberle*; best design, "Pairs," *Frank Senna*; best semi, *Snuggles*, *Jeri Turnbull*.

NAUGATONIC AVS, CT — "Swing into Spring." Mrs. Albert J. Rourke, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Ness's Dilly Dally*, *Maura Loa*, *Redland's Pride*, best in show, *ACA's Penny Alice*, 2nd best in show, *ACA's Heavenly Blue*, sweepstakes (design & horticulture), *Julia Adams*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Opt. Texas*, *Opt. Barbados*, *Nortex's Snowkist Haven*, best design, "A Walk in the Park," best gesneriad, *Molly Pitcher*, *Edna Rourke*; best miniature, *Opt. Lil Sapphire*, best semi, *Little Pro*, *Julia Prokop*.

DIABLO VALLEY AV GROWERS, CA — "America the Beautiful, Red, White & Violets." Vivien Ragan, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *S. brevipilosa*, *S. pendula Kizarae*, *S. Shumensis*, best semi, *Filligreen*, best gesneriad, *Col. Madam Butterfly*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *June Fallow*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Frank White*, *Lucky Lucile*, *Fresno Hoedown*, *Jackie Kenny*; best in show, *Linda Darnel*, best trailer, *Linda Darnel*, *Neal Fallow*; best design, "Aloha From Hawaii," sweepstakes (design), *Vivien Ragan*; best miniature, *Bionic Pink*, *Kathy Willoughby*.

THE AVS OF CHARLOTTE, NC — "African Violet - Come Rain or Come Shine." Betty Garland & Eva Harp, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *This Bud's Mine*, *Fredette's Strawberry Ripple*, *Nortex's Snowkist Haven*, best in show, *This Bud's Mine*, 2nd best in show, *Fredette's Strawberry Ripple*, best semi, *Rob's Almost Sinful*, *Elizabeth Ashley*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Tiger*, *Grandma's Zach*, *Majestic*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Lorene Pickett*; best design, "My Violet Oasis," *Mildred Sehorn*; best trailer, *Falling Snow*, best miniature, *Little Missy*, *Betty Garland*.

HEARTLAND AVS, CA — "Around the Maypole with Violets." Rosemary Lort, chairman. Winners: Best in show, *Mini PaPa*, best design, best trailer, *Fairy Fountains*, best miniature, *Dawn Michelle*, best semi, *Mini Papa*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Audrey Buchanan*; 2nd best in show, *Sapphire Halo*, *Jim Buchanan*.

FIRST NIGHTER AVS, TX — "Violet Fairytales." Jan Lakey, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Coral Kiss*, *Hortense's Hiawatha*, *Marvel*, best in show, *Marvel*, 2nd best in show, *Texas Hotshot*, best semi, *Snuggles*, best gesneriad, *Columnea Earlybird*, *Martha Turner*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Apache Celebration*, *Greg*, *Chiffon Print*, best design, "Three Little Pigs," best trailer (semi), sweepstakes (horticulture), *Mary Alice Barta*; best trailer (standard), *Paula Foster*; best miniature, *Mickey Mouse*, *Yvonne Acree*.

PAUMANOK AVS, NY — "Fun Is ..." Jane Weber, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Opt. Molokai*, *Bud's Melanie*, *Paumanok*, best in show, *Opt. Molokai*, *Melanie Weber*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Harbor Blue*, *Paumanok*, *Bud's Melanie*, sweepstakes (horticulture, 29 blue ribbons), *Joan Stuckey*; 2nd best in show, *Bud's Happy Bride*, best trailer, *Foxwood Trail*, best semi, *Bud's Happy Bride*, *Bud Weber*; best design, "Fun is Planting a Garden,"

sweepstakes (design, 10 blue ribbons), *Ron Stuckey*; best mini, *Rob's Soliloquy*, best gesneriad, *Strep. Orion*, *Jane Weber*.

NORTH STAR AV COUNCIL, MN — "Sounds of Music." Mary Endrizzi & Jim & Gail Graf, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Fickle Flirt*, *Prince of Dixie*, *Marcus*, best in show, *Bimini Sweetheart*, 2nd best in show, *Star Brite*, best miniature, *Think Twice*, *Sharon Johnson*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Ness's Shirley's Delight*, *Ness's Viking Maiden*, *Magnolia*, best design, "It's A Small World," sweepstakes (horticulture), *Retha Johnson*; best trailer, *Pixie Blue*, *Anne Manty*; best semi, *Hart's Snow White*, *Ruth Bann*; best gesneriad, *Columnea Yellow Bird*, *Mary Endrizzi*.

OSHKOSH AVS, WI — "Violets For the Nineties." Sue DeBrue & Betty O'Neil, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Frances Young*, *Opt. Ohio*, *Nortex's Snowkist Haven*, *Betsy Fox*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Double Black Cherry*, *Richter's Charm Song*, *Nortex's Snowkist Haven*, *Kevin Degner*; best in show, *Opt. Manitoba II*, *Betty O'Neil*.

HEART OF MISSOURI AVS — "Violets in Technicolor." Patrick Chrouser, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Happy Cricket*, *Christmas Candy-O*, *Pathfinder*, 2nd best in show, *Happy Cricket*, best design, "South Pacific," best semi, *Petite Pat*, *Diane Chrouser*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *You Old Smoothie*, *Wrangler's Navajo Nation*, *Embraceable Blue*, best trailer, *Melody Trail*, *Patrick Chrouser*; best in show, *Ice Blossom*, best mini, *Hart's Snow White*, sweepstakes (horticulture, 42 blue ribbons), *Joe Schulz*; sweepstakes (design, 4 blue ribbons), *Dorothy Anderson*.

SWEETWATER AVS, NY — "Dining Out With Violets." Carolyn Klein, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *White Pride*, *Moonbeams*, *Opt. Harlequin*, best trailer, *Perk Up*, *Eleanor Hull*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Opt. Little Apatite*, *Opt. Rose Quartz*, *Opt. Little Sapphire*, 2nd best in show, *Nancy Hayes*, best mini, *Opt. Little Sapphire*, *Kerry Dicker*; best in show, *Heavenly Notes*, *Edwina Gross*; best design, *Doreen Monteleone Nymar*; best semi, *Rob's April Storm*, *Bill Paauwe*; best gesneriad, *White Sprite*, *Eileen Montgomery*; sweepstakes (horticulture & design), *Carolyn Klein*.

SUBURBAN AV ENTHUSIASTS, IL — "A Fantasy of Violets." Mrs. Connie Romanow, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Country Lilacs*, *Sketch Book*, *Razzberry Frost*, best in show, *Blackie Bryant*, best design, "Violets in Fairyland," best mini, *Tiny Twirls*, sweepstakes (horticulture & design), *Connie Romanow*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Painted Sunrise*, *Ness's Hey Jude*, *Nortex's Snowfrill Haven*, best trailer, *Jillian*, *Evalyn Baborik*; 2nd best in show, *Opt. Molokai*, *Ellie Palm*; best gesneriad, *Sinningia Super Orange*, *Barbara Kirby*.

COPPER CITY AVS, NY — "Holidays with Violets." Elizabeth O. Murphy, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Sedona*, *Moonflower*, *Opt. Tennessee*, best in show, *Moonflower*, best trailer, *Bellflower Trail*, best miniature, *Wunnerful*, best semi, *Rob's Megan Lynn*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Peppermint*, sweepstakes (horticulture), *Wilson & Annabelle Hart*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Magnolia*, *Tommie Lou*, *Ming Blue*, *John & Marion Mennig*; 2nd best in show, *Outrage*, *Gerry Knobloch*; sweepstakes (design), *Mrs. Julia Hughes*.

GULF AV CLUB, FL — "A Violet Carousel." Lillian G. Scott, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Tiger, Autumn Honey, Woodland Sprite*, best in show, *Woodland Sprite*, best gesneriad, *Episcia Pink Brocade*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Lillian C. Scott; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Happy Cricket, Satin Sassy, Nortex's Snowkist Haven*, 2nd best in show, *Nortex's Snowkist Haven, June Murphy*; best design, "Carousel Fantasies," sweepstakes (design), Barbara Cole; best trailer, *Dazzle Trail, Sandy Shirkey*; best miniature, *Redlands Precious*, best semi, *Pygmy Princess, Myrtle Schneller*.

FIRST AVS OF DENTON, TX — "African Violets Visit the British Isles." Eunice Curry, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Opt. Little Sapphire, Babe, Wee Hummer*, best design, "The Trossachs," sweepstakes (design), Eunice Curry; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Tidecrest, The King, Nob Hill, Clara Lee Martin*; best in show, *Greg, best mini, White Magic, Michael Kaprelian*; best trailer, *Perk Up, Peg Baron*; best semi, *Cherry Dots, Glennis Crouch*; best gesneriad, *Pink Velvet, Mary Preston*.

THE FIRST AVS OF DALLAS — "Box Office Hits Starring African Violets." Roe Adams, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Bertha, Marvel, Brazos Blue*, best in show, *Pretty in Blue, Martha Turner*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Opt. Barbados, South Bound, Swift Thriller*, 2nd best in show, *Wrangler's Green Pastures*, best gesneriad, *E. Cleopatra*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Grace Davis; best design, "Barman," Mary Janson; best mini, *Opt. Little Amethyst, Mary Ann Corrigan*; sweepstakes (design), Bill Foster.

FIRST AVS OF WICHITA FALLS, TX — "Celebrating 25 Years With African Violets." Marjie Harrell, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, *Dizzy Lizzy, Precious Pink, Snuggles Clown, Joanie Sleeper*; 2nd best AVSA collection, *Brazos Blue, Pink Energy, Opt. Barbados*, best in show, *Redwood Trail*, best trailer, *Redwood Trail*, best mini, *Opt. Little Opal*, sweepstakes (horticulture), Mary Nell Klimek; best design, "Through The Years," sweepstakes (design), Marjie Harrell.



"Reach For the Stars" was the theme for the Bergan County AVS show and pictured holding award winning plants are Henrikas Januskevicius, with *Ms. Pretty Pink* and Florence DiLiberti, with *Nortex's Honey Comb Haven* and *Snuggles*.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION <small>(Required by 39 U.S.C. 362)</small>		
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B. Paid and/or Requested Circulation		
1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales	30	3
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C. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D)	121	121
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Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free Copies	12,713	12,611
E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D)	370	389
F. Copies Not Distributed	-0-	-0-
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11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete		Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner
		Nancy DiLiberti Office Manager
<small>(See Instructions on reverse)</small>		



Gall Borne with her Gold AVSA collection: Black Ace, Happy Cricket & Optimara New York at the Jefferson (LA) AVA's recent show.

AVSA Building Fund

Nell-Sue Tyson
2030 E. Amherst Avenue
Denver, CO 80210



Terrific rains and floods for some, horrendous fire losses, devastating hailstorms for us, searing heat in some areas, much company,

trips and vacations for lucky ones — all add up to slow summer progress of the climb up the peaks toward our dream home. This slowness happens each summer, but we tend to forget. However, as soon as fall sets in, Affiliates become active and plans are made for the months ahead; it is all revived.

I am sure we will all be gland in a way when 'business gets back to normal' and we can make progress. Until that time, we can formulate our own plans, dream our own dreams, come up with new ideas for advancing our cause and be ready for action when November rolls around.

Let's try to keep up our enthusiasm and continue to plan for our new office home as soon as have enough money to make it feasible. We need your continued help.

Contributions received from May 26 through June 25, 1990.
June, 1990

Barbara Ann Goodsell, IL

"in memory of my friend and pen pal,
Bill Johnson, hybridizer" \$15.00

Micahel Pratt, NY 16.50

Pomona Valley AVS, CA

donation from "Best Affiliate Newsletter"
publication, received at Boston Convention 50.00

NASA Area AVS, TX

in memory of Kirby and Florence Walker, killed
in auto accident. She was charter member 100.00

Bergen County AVS, NJ 25.00

Don L. Thornburg, CA 15.00

North Star AV Council, MN 15.00

AV Study Club, Houston, TX

in memory of Florence and Kirby Walker 25.00

Mrs. William R. (Kazuko) Lyons, PA

check from Mary Boland for art work 5.00

Mrs. William R. (Kazuko) Lyons, PA

check for \$10.00 for art work sold to others 10.00

Mary Ellen Shoun, CO

in memory of Mary Joyce Adams of Denver 5.00

Anne and Frank Tinari, PA

"in fond memory of a dear friend and devoted
AVSA member, Mary Joyce Adams" 25.00

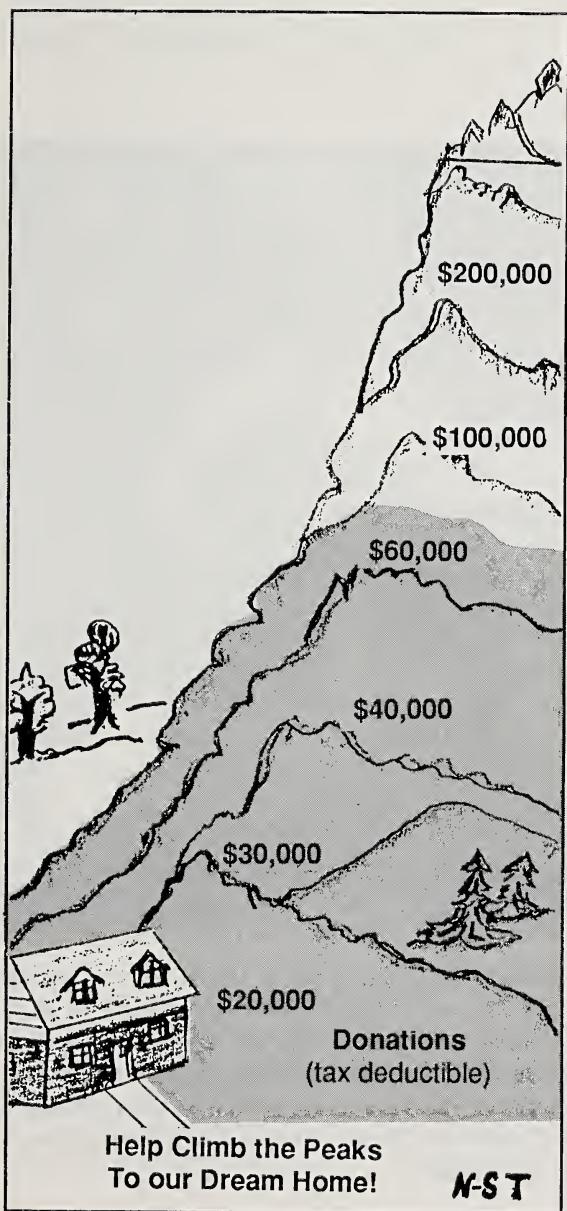
Arthur F. and Mary Boland, VA

in memory of Mary Joyce Adams 15.00

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in memory of Bill Johnson 15.00

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Late Bloomers Violet Club, IL
 in memory of Maralyn Whitmore 5.00
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 Richard and Lynda Welchel, TX
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 of San Antonio 25.00
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 Central Texas Judges Council, TX
 in memory of Florence and Kirby Walker 100.00
 Springfield AV Club, OH 10.00
 Jefferson AV Association, LA 25.00
 Mrs. H. N. "E" Hansen, PA
 for sale of craft items 80.00
 Mrs. H. N. "E" Hansen, PA
 in memory of Mary Joyce Adams 20.00

Total for the month - \$661.50

TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS - \$64,979.57

July, 1990
 AVS of Hawaii \$25.00
 Upper Pinellas AVS, FL 50.00
 Don L. Thornburg, CA 15.00
 Mrs. Frances Young
 in memory of Mary Adams, Denver, CO 10.00
 AV Club of Burlington County, NJ
 in lieu of speaker's fee to Rhona Thurman 15.00
 Quad Cities AVS, IA 100.00
 Moonlight AVS, TX 10.00
 Rocky Mountain AV Council, CO
 in memory of Mary Joyce Adams 15.00
 Jean M. Miller, "Violets of the West"
 in memory of my parents,
 Wm. & Orpha Wilson 15.00

Total for the month - \$255.00

TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS - \$65,234.57



THEY'RE TOPS - Among the winners of Top Choice (LA) AVS' spring show, "Violets Along the Red River," were Phyllis King, holding *Wilson Rhea*, best in show. Phyllis also won Award of Merit; Honorable Mention, *Frosted Whisper*, AVSA Gold Rosette, *Frosted Whisper*, *Something Special*, *Wonderland*; Show Chairman's Award, *Gambit*; Best Miniature, *Precious Pink*; Best in Design, "State Fair," and Sweepstakes. Doris Thomas is shown holding, *Perhaps Love*, winner of the President's Award. Dorothy Rickertson is shown holding *Bertha*, one of her plants from the AVSA Purple Rosette collection which also included *Ice Fantasy* and *Louise Croteau*.

Aphids — on African Violets

Dr. Charles Cole
Texas A&M

Aphids, commonly called plant lice, are among the most common and most numerous of all creatures on earth. Worldwide there are about 2,000 different species. More than 1,350 species are found in the U.S. and Canada. About 80 species of aphids are considered as pests of food crops and ornamental plants. Nearly all plant species have one or more species of aphids that will attack them. More than one half dozen species have been recorded from African violets. As a general rule, aphids do not like to feed on violets, but when forced to do so, due to the lack of a more suitable host, they can cause serious damage to violets.

Aphids are small soft-bodied sucking insects. They are rather pear shaped and range in length from 1-5 mm (about 1/8 inch). Aphids vary in color from green to yellow, black, or pink. Some are spotted and some have stripes. The color varies with species, food source and time of year (temperature). Aphids have long legs and long antennae. They have rather large dark eyes. Some aphids are wingless and some are winged. The winged species have two pair of transparent wings with the front being much larger than the hind pair. When at rest, the wings are held vertically over the body.

A unique characteristic of aphids is the presence of cornicles. Cornicles are tubelike structures, one on each side of the body, near the posterior end. These structures have often been compared to twin "tailpipes."

Aphids infest all parts of plants. Some species feed on the roots, some on leaves and flowers, and others on stems and leaf petioles. They are found in colonies and often occur in such numbers as to completely cover the entire surface of leaves or stems.

Aphids are rather slow-moving. When feeding, they are reluctant to fly or even move,

though prodded repeatedly.

Aphids have a very complex life cycle. Most overwinter as eggs, but some overwinter as adults. Some aphids give birth to living young most of the year and lay eggs in the fall. In some species, all individuals are females. Each individual can give birth to several living young each day. A life cycle is completed in 5-6 days and there may be as many as 46 generations in a single year. Reproduction is so rapid that in some cases, embryo begin to develop in the aphids body before she is born, thus, she can give birth soon after she herself is born.

Newly hatched or newborn aphids look like adults, except for size. The immature pass through 4-5 growth stages (nymphs) before reaching adulthood. Adult females live for about 30 days and may produce from 80-100 offspring. All life stages can generally be found at any given time in any colony. As aphids grow from one nymphal stage to another, they leave their old cast skins behind. These may be observed as tiny white specks on the foliage and throughout a colony.

The aphids piercing-sucking mouth parts are much like a hypodermic needle. They stick their mouth parts into plant tissue and suck out the juices. A great quantity of plant sap may be taken from a plant and much is excreted as a sweet, sticky concentrate called honeydew. Honeydew is an excellent media which often supports the growth of certain fungi. This results in a condition called "sooty mold." Sooty mold is a black superficial substance and does not harm the plant; however, it is unsightly, especially on plants grown for their ornamental or aesthetic value.

Many species of aphids have a very unique relationship with ants. Ants often "tend" aphids much as a rancher would his herd of

cattle. The ants protect the aphids from predators and adverse weather condition and in return, feast on the abundant honeydew the aphids produce. This relationship has progressed to such a degree, in certain species, that the aphids could not survive without the ants and the ants could not survive without the aphids. It is not uncommon to see ants tending aphids on African violets in a greenhouse or on a plant stand.

Aphids cause damage to violets in three ways.

1. They suck out plant juices, thus are in direct competition with the violet for moisture and nutrients.

2. They may inject toxic chemicals into the plant tissue which destroys chlorophyll and plant cells.

3. They may transmit certain viral diseases to the plants.

Plants infested with aphids exhibit three distinct symptoms. If infestations are allowed to persist, two other symptoms become evident. First, plants infested have a wilted appearance. As the aphids suck out plant sap faster than the roots can replace it, the plants begin to wilt and the leaves droop. Second, plants may become yellowed or have defined yellow spots on the leaves. This is the result of plant stress and of a toxin which some aphids inject into the plant. Third, honeydew excreted by the aphids can be found on the foliage. Symptoms of a prolonged infestation include dead spots in the leaves and the presence of black, sooty mold growing on the honeydew.

The best way to avoid aphid damage to your violets is to prevent infestations. This can be achieved by frequent inspection and careful observation for possible symptoms of aphids. Look for drooping leaves, yellow spots, stressed plants, presence of honeydew and cast skins or the aphids themselves. When infestations are found, treatment should be applied immediately with an approved insecticide.

Chemicals cleared for use on African violets by the EPA, and for controlling aphids, include the following:

acephate (Orthene®)
carbaryl (Seven®)

diazinon (Spectricide®, Knox Out®)
dimethoate (Cygon®)
disulfotone (Di-Syston®)
endosulfan (Thiodan®)
malathion
naled (Dibrom®)
pyrethrin
resmethrin

More than 300 products currently marketed for use by home owners contain one or more of these insecticides. Before purchasing a pesticide, read the label. Before using a product, be sure it is registered for use on African violets and for control of your specific pests. Follow all directions for dilution and application of insecticides, and you can be assured that they will be safe for you, your plants and will not pollute our environment.

MVL #5 Computer Diskettes

Macintosh - Need: Microsoft Word or other word processing package with "search" capability - Hard disk drive with at least 20 MB. Provided: 2 720 KB 3-1/2 diskettes in HD BACKUP format which may be restored to the hard drive (HD BACKUP is supplied with your Macintosh)

IBM-compatible - Need: Word processing or spreadsheet or database program. Hard disk drive with at least 10 MB. Provided: 4 360 KB 5-1/4 diskettes in FB RESTORE format which may be restored to the hard drive. (RESTORE is provided with your IBM DOS 3.0 or higher system disk)

Macintosh and IBM - compatible format choices: Text file: May be used with any word processor to search for and retrieve plant descriptions. Descriptions may be selected and organized into lists for printing. Delimited format: Files (plant name, registration number, registration date, size, hybridizer, and description) may be loaded into any data base or spread sheet for manipulation.

IBM USERS NOTE: LOOKFOR, a software program for those without a word processing or database system, is included on the IBM diskettes.

COST:

\$75.00 per complete set
of MVL #5 1990 diskettes

\$15.00 for 1991 update
\$15.00 for 1992 update



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Seasonable Suggestions ...

Anne Tinari

2325 Valley Road — Box 190, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

(Reprint from the November 1983 AVM)

The approaching winter months, with many holidays and festivities, can cause neglect with daily care of what is generally routine in African violet care and culture.

Whether you grow a large quantity on your windowsill, in fluorescent carts or even in a greenhouse, neglect is a serious consideration one cannot afford. Consequently, every grower must deal with the problem.

With low cold and even extreme temperatures expected, one must be on guard constantly to ward off chilling plants. On cold evenings when temperatures drop suddenly as much as 10 degrees or more, the sudden change can cause great havoc with a thriving group of plants. Make it a habit to check temperatures on windowsills with a thermometer to determine if it is safe to leave plants in their location without extra protection. Simple protection can be afforded by placing thick cardboard between the glass panes and plants. Remember to turn your plants daily for good even growth.

Plants need a constant supply of fresh buoyant air. The opening and closing of doors in a home tend to supply this need. If you keep your plants in an excessively dry hot atmosphere, then you must supply more humidity and a change of air to create a more comfortable atmosphere.

Botrytis problems can occur during these confined winter months. Control of botrytis consists of making conditions less favorable for growth and development of the fungus. One of the most important ways to reduce botrytis is through constant sanitation. This means specifically the removal of all dead blossoms, flower stalks when the blossoms are spent, limp or marred lower outer leaves, and the removal of any plant you are suspicious of being diseased in your collection. For greenhouse growers debris should never accumulate under the benches; allow good air circulation throughout your greenhouses, this will reduce the number of spores the fungus produces and thus reduce

the spore load in the air. Botrytis spores require condensed moisture to germinate, so it is essential that humidity be controlled by heating and ventilating to reduce moisture. If good ventilation is maintained it will allow the air circulation among the plants to be fresh and dry.

Never mist your plants late in the day during the cold months as the very hairy surfaces of the leaf will hold much of the moisture and be detrimental if night temperatures fall. Do your watering and misting out of the sun and strong light early in day. Plants grown under lights, without outside light influence can be misted at any time the room temperature is suitable.

Be aware of the harm that can be done by early snows which cause bright sun reflection on the glass turning tender violet foliage yellow, discoloration of blossoms and cause cell destruction.

Your watering pattern in these colder months should be done carefully using warm or at least tepid water.

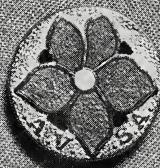
If repotting plants as needed do not pack the soil tight. It is better to leave the soil loose and fill in the top when needed. Tap the pot on your potting bench to settle the soil and eliminate air pockets. Air circulation in your pot is needed so plants do not become waterlogged.

Watering plants with the rising temperatures is considered best at this time of year. Cold air or direct drafts can cause blossoms to drop and buds to blast. Ideal day temperatures for normal violet growth should be between 60 to 75 degrees. The ideal night temperature should not drop below 60 degrees. Plants grown below 60 degrees often show slow growth, flower stems seem to grow shorter and florets do not open fully. If plants are constantly chilled, foliage can curl down and lose vigor, formed buds can fall prematurely. Continue following your preventative spraying program as insects do not leave because cold temperatures arrive, but their life cycle goes on as usual.

Happy violeting.

Holiday Greetings from AVSA

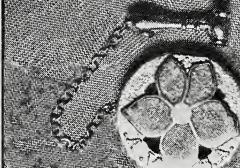
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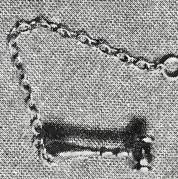
C-202
President's Pin
GP or Silver - \$18.50



D-221
Past President's Pin or Tie Tack
GP or Silver - \$18.50



E-204
Past President's Charm
GP or Silver \$18.50



F-211
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G-234
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GP or Silver - \$8.00



H-210
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BALLET MARTA - Lois Hughes

Lakeshore (IL) AVS
photo by
Bob Hassenauer,
Glenview, IL

Pre-Show Schedule

Pauline Bartholomew

About three months before a show, the critical timing for final plant growth and inducing floriferousness begins. These steps can't be taken at the grower's convenience. If plants are to be at their peak condition at show time, the procedures must be implemented at the proper times. The weekly sequence should be entered in a calendar. The grower is then reminded to check the pre-show schedule and follow these recommendations.

The grower walks a cultural tightrope in the next few months. The methods used to increase growth and blossoming must be carefully balanced against the risk of spoiling symmetry by creating off-sized rows of leaves or in burning or spotting sensitive foliage. Thus, the "advancing" techniques (increased light hours and foliar feeding) are timed and spaced with the temporary "retarding" techniques (decreasing nitrogen intake and repotting).

About three and a half months before the show, foliage should be washed in preparation for the final potting procedures that will take place. The foliage is then fresh and dust-free and prepared to put out the energy required for the new growth that is activated by the potting procedures. Double check for the presence of pests, particularly the more common ones such as thrips and cyclamen mites. If they are discovered at this time, they can be eliminated without damaging show plants and future blossoms. Try to avoid bringing any new plants into your collection during the next three months.

SHOWCALENDAR: Count back from the show date and mark the dates for 12 weeks prior, 10 weeks prior, etc., on the calendar.

12 WEEKS: Remove leaves, pot down (necks), or pot up. Foliar feed once in addition to regular fertilizing program.

10 WEEKS: Completely disbuds all plants except perhaps miniatures and trailers. Put one new tube in each fixture. Start "bloom booster" fertilizer formula.



JANUARY						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 <i>12 weeks to show</i>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 <i>MC-SC luncheon</i>	16 <i>VC-AVS meeting</i>	17	18 <i>10 weeks to show</i>
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	3 weeks to show

9 WEEKS: Increase light time by one hour. Disbud heavily variegated varieties and double varieties, such as Rhapsodies, etc., for the last time. Continue to disbuds all other varieties. Continue "bloom booster" fertilizer.

8 WEEKS: Increase light time by one hour. Disbud doubles and lightly variegated varieties for the last time. Continue to disbud semi-double stars and singles. Check for suckers. Continue "bloom booster" fertilizer. Foliar feed once more.

7 WEEKS: Increase light time by one hour. Disbud semidouble stars for the last time. Change to 12-36-14 or 15-30-15, etc., fertilizer formula for the remaining weeks.

6 WEEKS: Disbud singles for the last time. Check for suckers. Wash foliage.

1 WEEK: Remove spent blossoms, peduncles, and pedicel stubs. Check for suckers. Brush away soil particles, etc. Pot down necks or pot up only if necessary.

1 DAY: Again remove spent blossoms, etc. Remove leaf support rings and foil wrap pots (if required by show schedule). Place plants in transporting boxes so that the foliage is supported.

Apply the following procedures during the

designated weeks of the pre-show schedule:

FINAL POTTING

After repotting, growth slows down temporarily as the root system expands into the new soil. Only then can energy be expended for new growth and production of blossoms. Any marred, immature, or off-sized leaves remaining in the outer row should be removed. If necessary, remove the entire outer row. Even if the outer row is perfect, the grower may decide to remove it in order to restrict the plant size.

At this point the decision as to what size pot to use for each plant is made. The pot size is determined by the diameter of the existing foliage and by estimating the growth rate for the next three months.

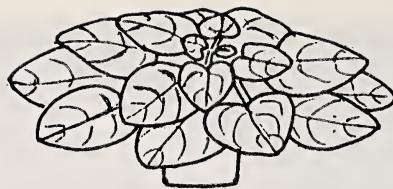
Potting a neck down: A mature plant that is now growing in, and is to be potted down into the same 5" pot, will have a growth rate of about 1" a month for the next few months (according to the variety).

Potting up: If a plant is potted up to the next size pot, the growth rate will be about 3" the first month and about 1" a month for the next few months.

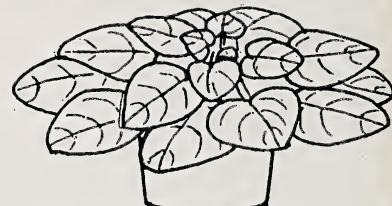
In choosing the pot size, the rule of thumb is that the foliage should be approximately three times greater than that of the diameter of the pot. For example, a 15" plant in a 5" pot. However, this is only a guideline; it is impossible to achieve these exact measurements. Judges do not measure foliage; they rely on their training and good judgment to determine if the pot is in pleasing proportion to the amount of foliage. (*Tall pots show up a discrepancy in proportion more readily than do shallow pots.*)

FERTILIZING PROGRAM

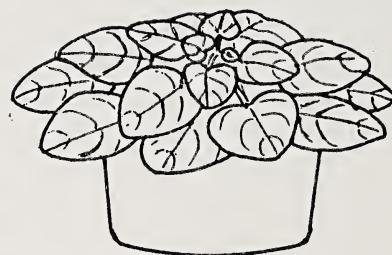
A "bloom booster" formula is used during the eighth, ninth, and tenth weeks before show to encourage maximum setting of buds. A "bloom booster" is any fertilizer formula in which about 70% of the total formula is comprised of phosphorus (the element that most affects blooming). For example 5-50-17, 12-55-6, etc. These "bloom boosters" also serve to slightly increase the fertilizer since the percentages add up to over 70% and 1/4 teaspoon is still used to one gallon of water. The regular formula



UNDERPOTTED



GOOD PROPORTION



OVERPOTTED

of 12-36-14, 15-30-15, 20-20-20, etc., add up to 60%. "Bloom boosters" are low in nitrogen so they are used only long enough to produce extra bloom. After that, a more balanced fertilizer is resumed to lessen the chance of off-sized leaves forming.

Foliar feeding is spaced out in the pre-show schedule to give a boost to root formation after repotting and as an additional boost for blossoms eight weeks before the show.

LIGHT HOUR CHANGES

Starting nine weeks before show, light hours are increased gradually in order to speed up growth. Blossoms are produced only on new growth. Since plants assimilate nutrients during the light hours, increased light hours mean increased assimilation of nutrients and, thus, increased growth. The light hours are increased one hour a week over a three week period. This gradual change allows foliage to adapt to the increased light without burning or altering the foliage pattern.

FINAL DISBUDDING

Some growers prefer not to disbud miniature and trailing varieties. I have had good luck in doing so. Since some miniature single-crown varieties have a tendency to sucker excessively when disbudded, it is best to allow these varieties to blossom at will.

The timing for full floriferousness varies according to weather conditions, cultural practices, and variety characteristics. For instance, a period of hot weather speeds up blooming and a period of cold weather slows it down. If a lapse in cultural practices occurs — allowing plants to go dry for example — growth is slowed and timing for floriferousness will be off schedule.

Heavily variegated varieties take longer to come into bloom than lightly variegated varieties; the reduced areas of chlorophyll in the foliage mean a slower growth rate for the plant. Some double-blossomed patented series such as Rhapsodies, Optimaras, etc., take longer than other doubles to come into full bloom.

The recommended disbudding schedule is

based on the following considerations:

1. Maintaining the normal temperature range of 65°F to 75°F.
2. Maintaining a humidity of 50% to 60%.
3. Using Standard Gro-Lux fluorescent tubes. Other types or combinations of fluorescent tubes may require different timing.

CONTROLLING BLOOMING TIME

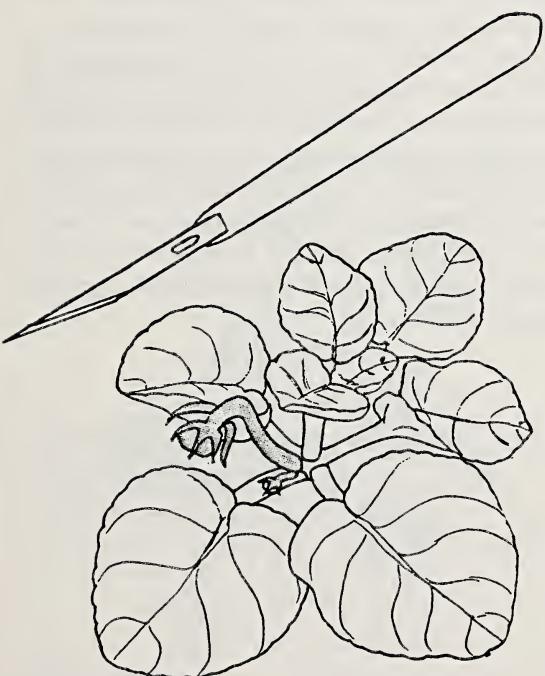
Temperature control can be used with some degree of effectiveness in speeding up or slowing down blooming. In the final weeks before show, blooming can be speeded up by increasing the daytime temperature to 80°F and keeping nighttime temperature at 70°F. If blossoms are opening too soon, keep daytime temperature at 70°F and nighttime temperature at about 60°F.

It takes years of experience to recognize if the majority of the blossoms are opening too soon or not soon enough. New growers should not aggravate themselves by playing this guessing game. Follow the recommended disbudding schedule and try to maintain the normal temperature range. This way at least 80% of the plants will probably bloom on schedule.

LAST MINUTE POTTING

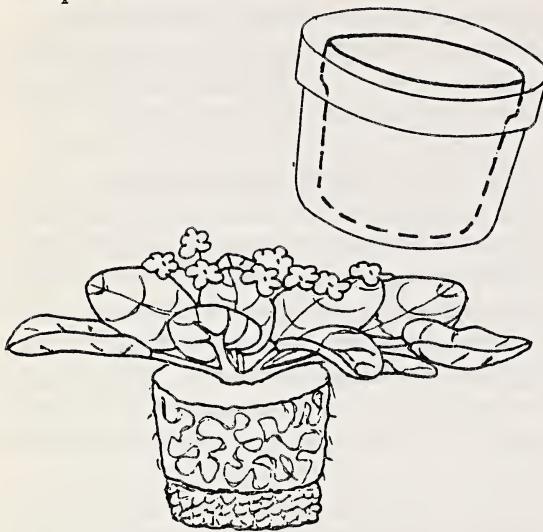
A week — or even a few days before a show — the plants will need to be checked to see if any last-minute repotting should be done. Repotting at this stage is tricky and the risks are high. New growers may not be confident enough of their potting skills to try it, but many experienced growers practice it routinely.

UNDERPOTTED PLANTS: If some of the best plants (particularly those chosen for the AVSA Collection) are noticeably underpotted, they should be potted up to the next size pot. The mold-potting technique is used except that the inner pot is placed the full depth of the larger pot instead of on top of the perlite layer. This procedure is used because the plant is transferred with the root ball, including the perlite layer, intact. It is better to avoid disturbing the roots. The proper depth of perlite and soil mix is added around the inner pot and pressed down firmly. Before adding the soil, saturate the perlite layer with water so that it will hold its shape when the inner pot is removed. Remove



Cut peduncles to a scant 1/8" for final disbudding.

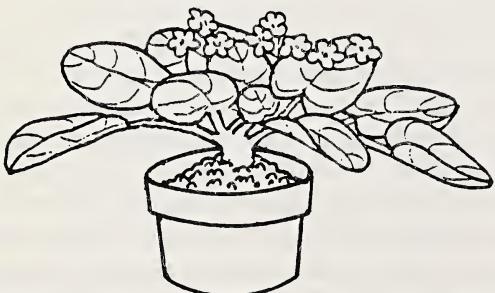
the inner pot, transfer the plant carefully into the prepared hole, and press the root ball firmly into place.



This last-minute potting procedure may also be used for those large-growing varieties that have been grown in 4" or 5" pots in order to restrict their size. At show time the foliage is only about 18" in diameter instead of 22" or so. They are then potted up to 6" pots just before the show. After the show, they can be potted back down again.

PLANTS WITH NECKS: If you have misjudged and a row of leaves must be removed, the resulting neck will be only about 1/4" long. In this case, soil mix can be added to the pot and leveled off around the neck. If the plant has been potted at the right depth (3/4" free space at the top of the pot), there will be 1/2" of free space remaining.

However, if this has already been done and still more leaves must be removed, the neck will



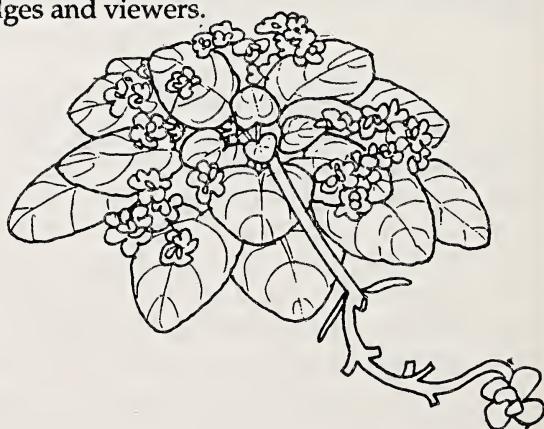
then be too long to add more soil and the plant must be potted down. *Do not mound soil around the neck in an attempt to disguise it!* The judges will not be fooled and points will be deducted. Not only that, but the petioles will not rest straight across the rim of the pot thus causing the petioles to sag and possibly ruining symmetry.

Lift the plant out of the pot by positioning a pointed tool along under the perlite layer. If necessary, burn a hole in the bottom seam of the pot in order to do so. Lift the plant out of the pot and cut away enough of the perlite layer to equal the length of the neck. Place the plant back in the same pot without adding any new perlite. This will lower the plant sufficiently in the pot without cutting into the soil part of the root ball. Add new soil around the neck. After the show, the plant can be repotted properly.

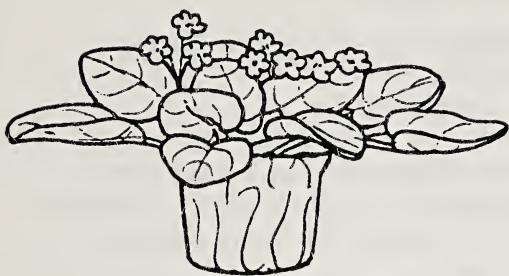
Last Minute Grooming

The day before the show the plants must be groomed to the most minute detail. Don't risk losing even a fraction of a point for overlooked peduncle or pedicel stubs, spent blossoms, or soil particles on the leaves. Look particularly closely for suckers that may have been overlooked. They seem to jump up overnight.

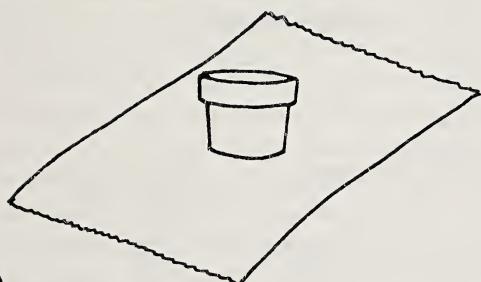
Some exhibitors, in a desperate attempt to have as much bloom as possible, leave one or two blossoms attached to an already denuded peduncle. Judges wince when they see these. Another motive for leaving these stragglers is to achieve the even spacing of blossoms around the crown. Don't do it! It is better to lose the points than to offend the sensibilities of the judges and viewers.



FOIL WRAPPING POTS



Some judged shows require that all pots be uniformly covered with aluminum foil. Use an empty pot as a mold. It is usually requested that the dull side of the foil be turned to the outside. Prepare pot covers well in advance of the show. They stack neatly for storage.

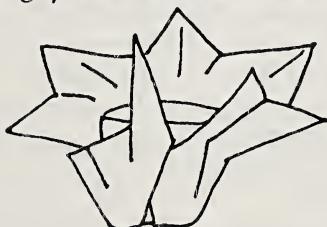


A.

FOIL SHEET

Bright side up/dull side down.

For extra large pots, use two sheets crossed.



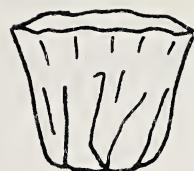
B.

Fold foil up around pot — crimping and pressing around the pot.



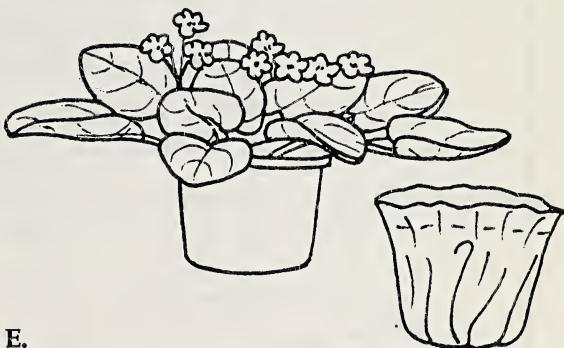
C.

Trim away excess foil about 1" above the rim of the pot.



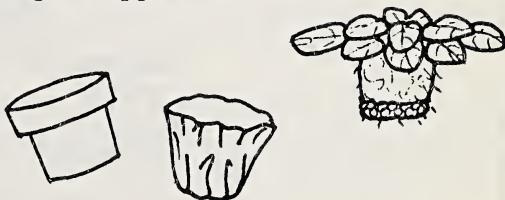
D.

Pull the foil away from the top of the pot and remove the mold pot.



E.

Remove the leaf-support ring from the plant and slip the foil cover onto the pot. Fold and crimp the foil neatly up over the rim of the pot taking care not to break or mar the leaves. Place the plant in the designated box so that the foliage is supported.



F.

FOIL WRAPPING MINIATURES & SEMIMINIATURES

Remove the plant from the pot and set aside taking care not to dislurb the root ball. Foil wrap the pot, lapping the excess foil over the rim and into the pot. Place the plant back in the pot. *This works only if the roots are well established.*

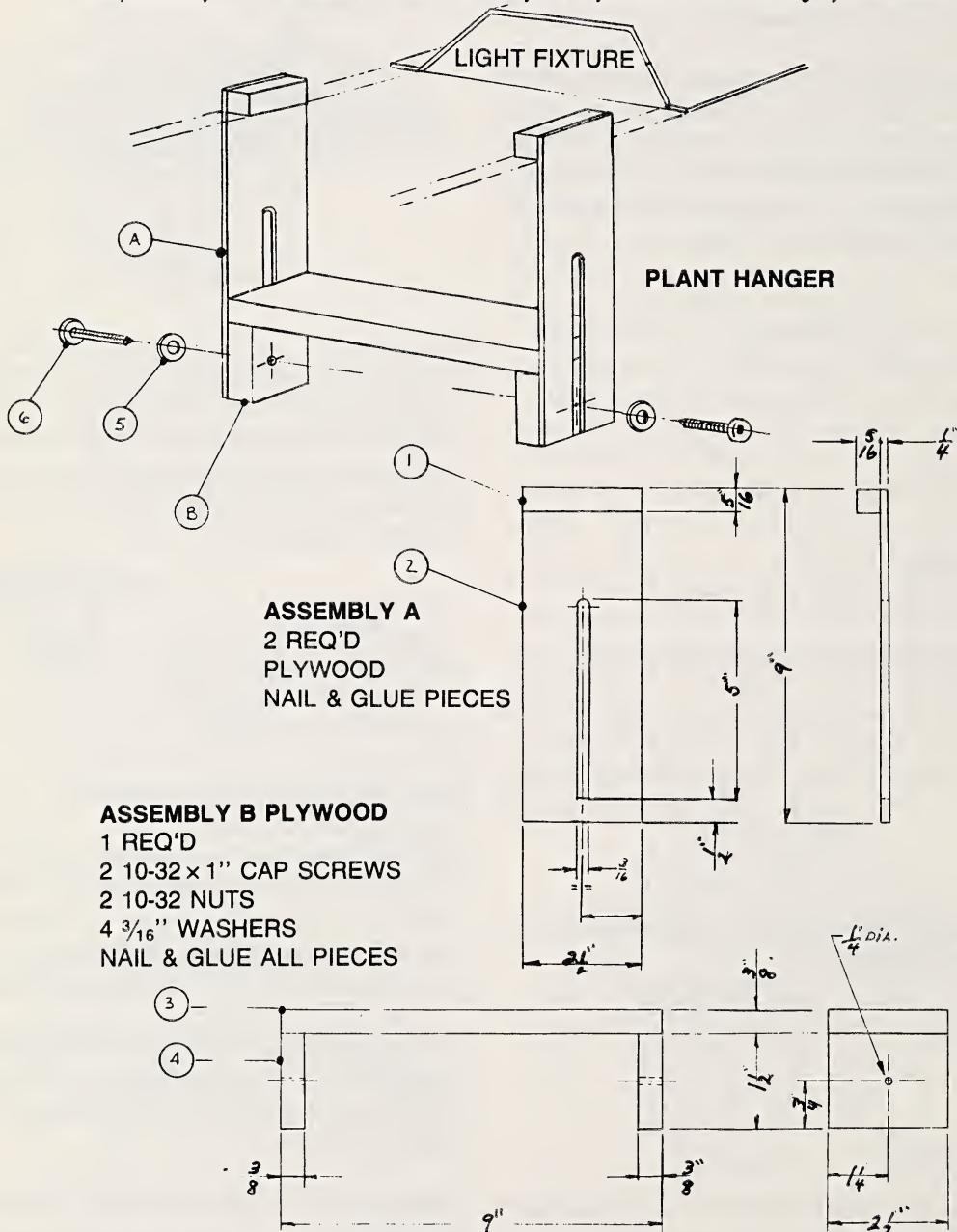
NOTE: Leaf support rings are not permitted in judged shows. It is the custom in some areas to leave leaf supports under the foliage for non-judged exhibits.

(Reprinted from "Growing To Show" with author's permission.)

Plant Hanger

Edward Bailey
64 Upper Walker Ave., S.
Stoney Creek, Ontario, Canada L8G 1T1

Here is a drawing of a plant hanger, for starting cuttings and small plants. It is adjustable. I thought up the idea and made one for myself and it works well.
(Reprinted from "Chatter," The Journal of the African Violet Society of Canada)



Winter Blahs?

WHY NOT SET UP A LIGHT GARDEN!

Vivian Scheans
4660 W. Dogwood Drive
Lake Oswego, OR 97034

"Plants can live without man, but
Man could not exist without plants."

—Author unknown

We are the first generation of man that can have blooming plants growing in our homes no matter where we live or what season it is. For centuries people living in the temperate zones, except for the very wealthy—who could afford conservatories, could enjoy blooming plants only in the summer. After the introduction of the fluorescent fixture in 1936 it was discovered that African violets grew beautifully under fluorescent lights; symmetrically — without being turned, with perfect foliage and in almost constant bloom. Today, anyone interested in plants can have a wide variety of blooming plants the year around.

The growing and collecting of plants is a hobby that can give you many hours of enjoyment and pleasure whether you live in a small apartment in a large city or a large house in the country. All you need is a light garden and a suitable selection of plants. With them, you will have a place of magic that will attract the attention of all your visitors.

All plants produce flowers; but many have flowers that are insignificant or rarely bloom. Indoor plants are generally divided into two groups — foliage plants, collected mainly because of their leaves, and flowering plants — collected for their flowers. There are many plants with interesting flowers that do very nicely in a light garden, are relatively easy to grow, and will provide the hobbyist with a nice show of color and pleasure. Since few plants are everblooming, the collecting of several that are showy and bloom easily will allow you to have

a good show of color year around with little effort.

General Requirements

A "light garden" can be set up any place where you can install a fluorescent light fixture, from a book shelf to a spare room or even a whole basement.

Every plant has its own needs and these must be met if it is to bloom and perform at its best. Briefly, I will list the factors that have proved important to produce blooming plants.

Light — One tube for every one (1) foot of growing space; 14 to 16 hours of light each and every day; and plants placed 8 to 12 inches from the tubes.

Tubes — Specialized fluorescent tubes which should be replaced after one year's use: Verilux Tru-Bloom (considered by many as the best); Wide Spectrum Gro-Lux (WS); Agrolite; Vita Light; or a combination of 1-cool white (CW) and 1-warm white (WW); or 1-cool white and 1-Wide Spectrum Gro-Lux (WS) — my preference.

Planting Mix — Any porous light mix that provides good aeration for the roots, drains easily, yet allows the retention of some moisture and nutrients like a 1-1-1 mix (1 part each of peat moss, perlite & vermiculite with 1 tablespoon dolomite lime per gallon of mix).

Air Circulation — Good air circulation is necessary in order to prevent mildew, mold and other plant diseases. A small fan can be placed near by to move the air. Plants which like terrarium conditions are not as susceptible.

Humidity — Humidity is as important as light & nutrients. Fifty (50) to 70% humidity is necessary for most plants, but some tropicals need at least 80% humidity. Those that require more can be grown in terrariums or enclosed containers.

Temperature — Collect the types of plants that suit the temperatures you can provide. If your growing area remains quite warm, grow plants that like warmer temperatures. You can also put plants that like it cooler near the floor where it is usually cooler. Generally:

60 - 65° minimum night time temperatures, and

70 - 75° maximum day time temperatures.

Fertilizer Program — When plants are in active growth and bloom they are in constant need of nutrients. Any constant feed program which will provide your plants with essential nutrients can be used depending upon your set-up, the plant and your own preferences. Use a balanced fertilizer like 20-20-20 while the plants are young and growing but when they are ready to bloom and during the blooming period use a high phosphorus (larger middle number) fertilizer like 15-30-15. Trace elements are also very important, especially when using a soilless mix. Since each brand is different, it is a good practice to alternate fertilizers, using one brand for a time and then changing to another.

In a constant feed program, fertilizer should be diluted to a 1/8th or 1/10th strength. For example: if the label on a 20-20-20 fertilizer recommends one tablespoon per gallon of water, use 1/4th teaspoon per gallon of water.

Most plants love foliar feeding — misted with a dilute strength fertilizer water (be sure water is slightly warm).

pH — Tap water varies in pH and trace elements, depending upon many factors. Some areas of the country, like Portland, have wonderful soft water which is generally slightly acid with few minerals. Many of the tropical plants we grow, prefer a pH which is slightly acid. Also, many areas, especially where the water comes from wells, usually have more minerals in it causing the water to be slightly alkaline (or even more than slightly). Also, the soil can become too acid over time, due to break down or fertilizer build up. If not within the range required, the roots can't take the nutrients from the soil and it can cause "fertilizer lock-up." This can be the cause of many growing problems. A too-alkaline condition causes a thickening of the leaves or brittle leaves, which can sometimes be mistaken for turgidity. Improper pH can also cause poor leaf development, yellow lower leaves, stunted root systems and many other problems. I have found that collecting rain water is the simplest solution to my problem. However, if you live in an area where the water is alkaline, you can also try using an acid-type fertilizer (like Stern's Miracid [30-10-10]) with chelated iron and trace elements to help correct this condition. You could also add more peat moss to your potting mix. Those using water which is slightly acid can add more dolomite lime to the mix or water with limewater occasionally (1 tablespoon per gallon of water).

Master Variety List #5 1990

\$12.95 postpaid

Describes all varieties registered to December 1990 - all recognized species, and non-registered cultivars introduced from July 1983 to Dec. 1990. MVL is looseleaf and requires BINDER. Order both from Beaumont Office.

Binder - \$6.95 postpaid

Variegated African Violets

Nancy Robitaille

Saintpaulias or, as they are commonly called, African violets, have leaves which are usually green — anywhere from light apple green to dark, almost black-green. Their flowers are available in every color of the rainbow ... except a clear fire-engine red, although that may be possible some day (the elusive yellow *saintpaulia*, long considered a genetic impossibility, now exists ... although it has yet to be released commercially).

What then is a variegated *saintpaulia*? To answer this, let's take a look at the history of the variegated African violet.

Brief History of Variegated *Saintpaulias*

In 1959, Mrs. Tommie Lou Oden, from the state of Mississippi, received a leaf cutting of the plant 'White Pride.' Most of the plantlets produced by this cutting came true (that is, they were exact copies of the mother plant, with all green leaves and double white blossoms), but one of them had a very peculiar marking on its leaves. It displayed a distinctive white edging that erratically invaded the center. Variegated leaves in *saintpaulias* — that is, leaves which are not all green but have a definite pattern of green mixed with white — were not unheard of at that time, but they weren't common either. Previously the variegated *saintpaulias* which had shown up in some collections had proved unreliable and didn't always produce plantlets with the same colorful leaf pattern as the mother plant. None therefore had any commercial value.

Tommie Lou Oden propagated this unusual sport (a mutation: something drastically different from the mother plant) through nine generations to be sure it was stable. To do so, she took a leaf from each generation of the plant, propagated it, then propagated a leaf from the new generation, and so on. When she was convinced the mutation was a stable one, she began showing it to her friends who immediately said she should call her unusual find, 'Tommie Lou.' 'Tommie Lou' bears double white flowers like its ancestor 'White Pride,' but often also with a tinge of pink.

Within 10 years of its discovery, 'Tommie Lou' had become one of the most popular *saintpaulias* on the market, undoubtedly be-

cause it was so completely unique. It was, at that time, considered sterile since it had never been observed to produce seed. However, in 1969, hybridizer Harold Rienhardt successfully pollinated it. He did so by pulling a flower apart, thus discovering that the pistil (the female part of the flower) was deformed and bent down upon itself, effectively preventing chance pollination. He therefore tried putting some pollen from another plant, 'Purple Gold,' onto the 'Tommie Lou' flower. A seed pod formed. When the well-known hybridizer, Lyndon Lyon, visited Rienhardt, he was urged to take some of the seed. Forty-three seedlings were produced, all of them with variegated foliage.

Lyndon Lyon continued to produce new hybrids with variegated foliage in every possible color combination, then, years later, he also produced miniatures, semiminiatures and trailers with this same remarkable foliage. Today there are literally thousands of variegated hybrids on the market and most can trace their ancestry back to 'Tommie Lou.'

Several Types of Variegation

Since 'Tommie Lou,' the first stable variegated *saintpaulia*, was produced, hybridizers have continued to work with variegated foliage. Four types of variegation are now recognized: spontaneous, crown, 'Tommie Lou' and mosaic.

Spontaneous variegation is an undesirable trait in show plants, since it is inevitably temporary and irregular, fading away to almost completely green leaves. Since, in African violet shows, variegation must be approximately equal on all leaves, such plants lose many points.

Crown variegation describes a type of variegation concentrated in the center of the plant or *crown*. The center leaves of plants with crown variegation are often entirely cream, yellow or pink, while the outer leaves can be entirely green. Some growers prefer this type of variegation and some hybridizers even specialize in this type of plant. Ethel Champion is one such hybridizer and she has produced a great many crown-variegated *saintpaulias*. One of my favorites is 'Frost Fire.'

Crown variegation is more stable than spon-

taneous variegation and is easily reproduced by leaf cuttings. However, like most other types of variegation, it is influenced by air temperatures and by the amount of nitrogen the plant receives. In fact, plants with crown variegation are probably more sensitive to this problem than most other variegated violets.

TL ('Tommie Lou') variegation is the most popular type, both with hybridizers and *saintpaulia* enthusiasts. As mentioned previously, it is quite distinctive, with a white leaf edge and more solid variegation throughout the leaf. It is less affected by temperature and high nitrogen fertilizers than crown variegation, but should still be grown under cooler temperatures if possible. Often TL plants will become nearly green in the summer only to become quite colorful in the winter. White variegation is not the only color available of course: cream, pink, beige and yellow shades are also common.

TL variegation is simple to produce in hybridizing. It is not, in fact, a genetic trait at all since it isn't carried in the plant's chromosomes. Instead, it is carried in the ovary of the mother plant as a defect in the manufacture of chlorophyll and is transmitted to all its offspring as part of the egg itself. To obtain a new variegated hybrid, therefore, one only has to pollinate another variegated plant: all the seedlings produced will be variegated to some degree. On the other hand, if the mother plant has all-green leaves, no amount of crossing with the pollen of variegated plants will cause its seedlings to be variegated, since only the mother plant can transmit this trait ... unless, of course, like Mrs. Oden, the grower is lucky enough to come across a new mutation!

The fourth kind is called mosaic variegation. Rather than being concentrated along leaf edges or in new growth, this kind of variegation is scattered evenly over the whole leaf surface like a mosaic pattern in ceramics or cut glass windows. This is the most stable of all the types of variegation and is not affected by changes of temperature or nitrogen content.

In spite of the fact that mosaic variegation was introduced many years ago, only a few plants of this type have been hybridized. Hybridizers believe that this is because mosaic patterns are linked to a serious genetic defect. Canadian hybridizer Denis Croteau noted in his article in *Chatter*, December, 1987, that, when he worked with these plants, only a few seeds

germinated and that the resulting plants were puny or hard to grow. Occasionally though, strong, attractive cultivars have been produced. Two such plants are often seen in African violet shows: 'Emperor' and 'Lilian Jarrett.' They are both considered good show plants although neither becomes very large. Within the last few years, Ethel Champion has introduced several new cultivars with this type of variegation.

The Influence of Temperature and Fertilizer

As mentioned earlier, the spontaneous, crown and TL forms of variegation are strongly influenced by temperature changes and nitrogen levels in the soil. Young plants, for example, are often nearly colorless and may not survive unless they can be "greened up." At this point, they should be watered with fish emulsion or some other high nitrogen fertilizer once a week, as this stimulates the production of chlorophyll, as do warmer temperatures. Chlorophyll, the pigment that gives leaves their characteristic green color, is essential in photosynthesis (changing sun or artificial light into usable energy) and without it, the plants could never survive.

When the plants become well-established, though, it will be necessary to avoid nitrogen-rich fertilizers and to give them cooler temperatures, otherwise their variegation will be barely evident. You can then use an all-purpose fertilizer such as 20-20-20, since a relatively high proportion of nitrogen (the first of the three numbers) is still necessary to encourage healthy leaves and a symmetrical rosette. If the leaves begin to lose their variegation, however, fertilizers with less nitrogen should be used. Once your plants have a good balance of variegation and green pigmentation, you can start thinking about growing them as show plants. In order to bring out the most intense leaf coloration while stimulating flowering, many growers use Peter's 5-50-17, a fertilizer especially developed for variegated plants. This should not be used for the entire life of the plants, as it doesn't contain enough nitrogen for healthy growth. Switching fertilizers every few months is therefore a good idea. If your plants once again become too heavily variegated, you can fertilize them with fish emulsion for a while, until their leaves are greener.

As far as temperature is concerned, excess heat also causes the leaves to green up. When

kept at 27° C (80° F) or above, the variegated areas of the leaf gradually diminish while the green increases. On the other hand, variegation becomes more prominent in cooler weather. This is why it is so often recommended to put all variegated plants on the lowest shelf of your light garden where temperatures are slightly cooler.

Cultural Tips

Other than preferring cooler temperatures and fertilizers lower in nitrogen than green-leaved varieties, variegated *saintpaulias* have about the same needs as others of their genus. The few differences are only very slight.

For example, it is standard practice, when propagating *saintpaulias*, to take leaves from the second or third row of leaves, avoiding the oldest ones, since the latter may not have enough strength to nourish plantlets. This also applies to variegated *saintpaulias*. However, it is also important to choose a leaf with a large amount of green pigmentation, as this also nourishes the plantlets. And as with other green-foliaged *saintpaulias*, it is important to be selective in choosing plantlets if you are growing for show purposes, picking those with a

natural tendency to produce symmetrical rosettes. It is much easier to work with a plant whose natural tendencies meet your own needs.

Since plants absorb light through chlorophyll-producing cells, it stands to reason that plants containing less chlorophyll, such as variegated plants, will need more light than all-green ones. This is especially true when the plants in question are highly variegated. However, the difference is not as extreme as one might imagine. Often simply putting your variegated plants nearer to the centers of the tubes, rather than at the edges or ends of the tubes, will be enough to allow you to grow them to perfection.

This "accident of nature" which occurred in one of Tommie Lou Oden's baby plants brought all of this to us. When admiring one of your own variegated plants, take a minute to thank the beauty we would not be seeing if that one baby had not decided on its own to become something very special.

(Reprinted from "Houseplant Forum," Larry Hodgson, editor.)

SELF-WICKING POT

This pot is designed especially for African Violets . . .



Standard	Semi-mini	Mini	Petite	Micro	Micro Swan
14.00	11.00	9.00	8.00	7.00	9.00

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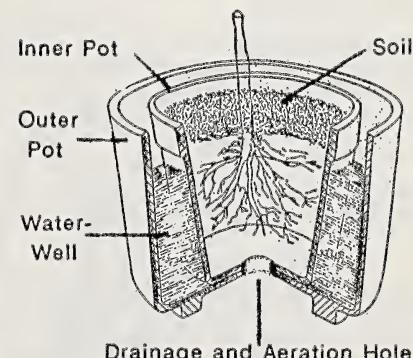
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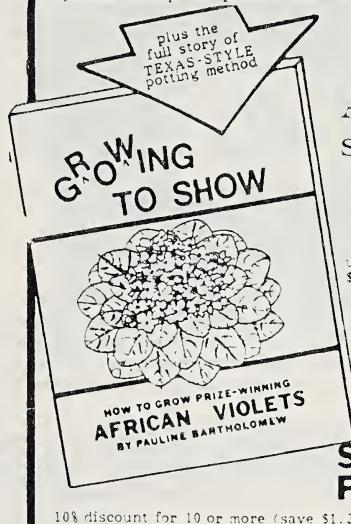
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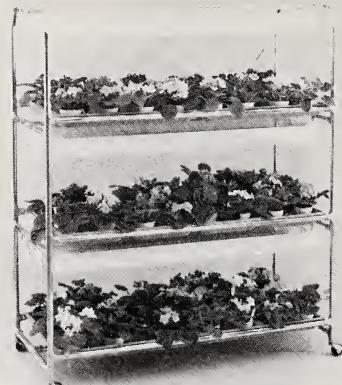
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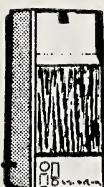
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13"	Gr. only	1.25	6.50	11.50	19.75
					36.50

FREDETTE'S ALLEGRO Plant Tonic

Excellent for starting leaves and small plants.

Use 3 tsp. per gal. water. 4 oz. bottle - \$2.75 each;
3 for \$7.50; 6 for \$13.50; 12 for \$25.00.
1 gal. (for large growers) \$34.00 each.

PH METER - \$19.00

PLASTIC TERRARIUM

12" Diameter - \$6.75 each

White - Green - Beige - Terra-cotta

SWIFT'S "MOIST-RITE" PLANTER

White - Green - Black

\$3.85 each - 6/18.00 - 12/32.00 - 24/54.00

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS:

Supplies - UPS \$3.25

Supplies - Parcel Post \$5.50

All other Countries - Actual Cost

Mass. residents include 5% Sales Tax

Please Include STREET or ROAD, Zip Code & Phone #

Prices subject to change without notice.

PETER'S WATER SOLUBLE FERTILIZERS

Formula	Type	Size/Price
12-36-14	African Violet Special	4 oz. 12 oz.
5-50-17	Variegated Special	\$1.20 \$3.00
15-16-17	Peat-Lite Special	1.20 3.25
20-20-20	General Purpose	1.20 2.50
15-30-15	House Plant Special	1.20 2.50
Dolomite Limestone		2 lbs./\$1.50
Charcoal	No. 4 Coarse	20 oz. 40 oz.
	No. 6 Medium	1.50 2.75
Vermiculite	No. 2 Coarse	5 qts. 16 qts.
Perlite	Coarse	1.50 4.00
Long Fibered Sphagnum Moss		8 qts./\$2.75
TROY Capillary watering mat — a full 4 feet wide		
\$2.25 per running yard — whole yard lengths		

BATEMAN'S BOUNTY 6-2-2

8 oz. - \$2.99

16 oz. - \$5.25

STURDY

4 oz. - \$2.99

8 oz. - \$5.25

PLANT DINNER

8 oz. BOUNTY,

4 oz. STURDY +

Mixer Dispenser Bottle

\$6.35

PHYSAN 20

16 oz. - \$5.95

32 oz. - \$9.95

1 gal. - 29.95

OYAMA PLANTERS

Green, Brown or White

4" - \$1.49 each

5" - \$1.99 each

5-1/2" - \$2.99 each

6" - \$3.50 each (Wh. only)

SUPERTHRIVE

1/2 oz. - \$1.59

1 oz. - \$2.39

2 oz. - \$3.39

4 oz. - \$5.39

ORTHENE

75% Soluble Powder

1 lb. - \$15.50

AEROSOL SPRAYS

PT 1300 Orthene

18 oz. - \$9.50

Knox-Out PT 1500A

16 oz. - \$5.95

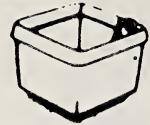
I LOVE AFRICAN VIOLETS

BUMPER STICKERS - \$1



The House of Violets

Charlyne and Ralph Reed



936 Garland St., SW - Dept. N90
Camden, Arkansas 71701 - Ph. 501-836-3016
"MOIST-RITE" PLANTER

Circle color desired

Green	White	Black
-------	-------	-------

Single planter.....	\$ 4.25 ppd.
Carton of 6.....	20.00 ppd.
Carton of 12.....	35.95 ppd.
Carton of 24.....	61.00 ppd.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ St. _____ Zip _____

Prices subject to change without notice

MARY E. GALL
913-642-4357
1991 LIST \$1.50

MARY'S VIOLET



3200 W. 82nd Terrace
Leawood, Kansas 66206

SPECIALIZING IN STANDARDS, MINIS & TRAILERS OF PROVEN SHOW QUALITY

I am honored to introduce the hybrids of Raymond Russell, available 1991. Raymond has tested these new hybrids for several years. All will be registered by 1991. You will enjoy showing these fine new varieties:

FLIGHTS OF FANTASY rose pink dbl., lavender specks & sparkles; dk green
STRAWBERRY LOVE white & strawberry swirled dbl; strawberry, green, white VF
TWICE SPICE medium pink s-sd, blue pepper fantasy; dark green foliage
also two soon-to-be-named hybrids; a striking coral and a lovely fantasy
SIX NEW RUBY COX HYBRIDS FOR 1991

WISHING YOU PEACE AND HAPPINESS FOR THE COMING YEAR

Plants - \$3.50

1991 List \$1.50

Leaves - \$1.50

PATCHES AND POTS

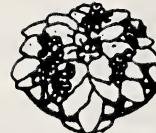
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El Cajon, CA 92020
(619) 442-7037

WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS FOR VIOLET
SUPPORT RINGS AND OYAMA PLANTERS

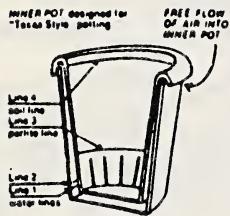
Give Your Violets A Lift

With

Elisa's African Violet Rings



1. Keeps leaves from getting cut on pot edges.
2. Plants cannot hug pot.
3. Show plants are easier to train.



OYAMA 'TEXAS STYLE' PLANTERS®

1. Little or no watering skill required.
2. High quality, shatter proof plastic with textured finish.
3. Approved for shows by African Violet Society



PLASTIC RESERVOIRS
available for the
Miniaturizing Mini Pot

BUSINESSES AND CLUBS SEND FOR WHOLESALE PRICE LIST.

MASTERCARD and VISA accepted

Retail List Available



Save 10 to 40% on Plant Stands (36 models), Lamps (22 kinds), Accessories, Meters, Timers & Plantlites

3-SHELF, 4-FOOT PLANT STAND (PICTURED) FROM \$ 142.00 (LESS FIXTURES & WHEELS)

4-SHELF, 4-FOOT PLANT STAND (PICTURED) FROM \$ 178.00 (LESS FIXTURES & WHEELS)

BA-3 FLORA CART, 3-Shelf (less fixtures & wheels) - \$233.00

40 Watt WS (WIDE SPECTRUM) Lamps ... 6 - \$24.96; 12 - \$43.68; 24 - \$81.12

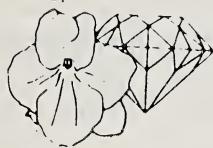
We offer 8 NEW PLANTLITES with wide spacing between the lamps. All plantlites are 2" deep. 2 lamp Plantlites are 14" wide with lamps 10-1/2" apart. 4 lamp Plantlites are 20" wide with lamps 8" apart and 5-1/2" apart respectively. Also available with Deluxe or Electronic Ballasts for savings of 22% to 40% in Electricity, since fixtures can be located closer to the plants.

All Shipped UPS. Shipping - add 10%

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INDOOR GARDENING SUPPLIES
P. O. Box 40567-AV Detroit, MI 48240

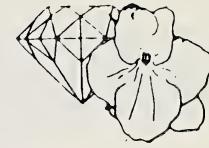


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"Where Superior "GEMS" are grown

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Season's Greetings

AND A SINCERE THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS AND TO ALL THE HYBRIDIZERS WHO PRODUCE
SUCH GORGEOUS PLANTS FOR US TO GROW.

BOSTON'S BLUE RIBBON WINNERS & OTHER OUTSTANDING 1991 RELEASES ARE BEING GROWN NOW INCLUDING:

"Party Prim" (M. Burns), bright pink ruffled stars w/abundant blue fantasy markings; heavy bloomer (Best in Show - Boston). Our own "Gemcraft Pink Pearl," white double, edged in green and streaked with pink. Also, ever blooming "Apaches" by Munk, other winners by Burns, Croteau's unusual blooms, ever popular Bryant, Fredette, Lyon plants, and numerous other hybridizer's releases. Order early for Spring 1991 to reserve your choices.

Nylon wick 10¢/ft. \$1.00 postage if ordered separately. Catalog \$1.00 refundable first order

Plants \$3.25 - Leaves \$1.00 - State Inspected U.S.A. Shipping Only

STATE OF THE ART PLANT STAND

These state of the art plant stands are specifically designed to create and project the necessary artificial sun needed to nurture your interior plants. It facilitates all phases of growth from propagation to show plants. The stands are made of white enameled one inch square tubing with 16 gauge wall. Adjustable leveling jacks are included to ensure stability. The light fixture is 16 inches wide with a lamp spacing of 10 inches for maximum coverage, and is made rust resistant and light weight. The fixture has the D & H slide in-and-out feature for easy cleaning and maintenance. The fixture also includes a grounded electrical cord, switch, and a receptacle for easy plug in. Bring the loveliness of the great outdoors, indoors and allow your flowers to flourish with the strength and health that delicate flowers need. Perfect for plants you can be proud of! There are several models to choose from. Each stand comes with all the hardware and instructions for assembly, durable plastic trays, cube louver, and lights. An optional feature is the attachable work bench which can be easily adjusted to conveniently fit and accommodate each plant level.

Complete pricing and information available on request. Most major credit cards accepted.



PLANT STANDS & ACCESSORIES
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214-278-0389

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103 KENVIEW AVE., DEPT. AV, BUFFALO, NY 14217

Top Quality Supplies-Low Prices-Fast Service

Catalog features 100's of products for your Violet needs.

POTS .. POTS .. POTS ... (ALL SIZES), MICRO-MINI

POTS, MINI WELLS, RESERVOIRS (ALL COLORS), MICRO-MINI AFRICAN VIOLET KIT (WICK-WATER 72 MINIATURES IN 11" X 22" SPACE, POTS NEVER TIP WHEN CARRIED), HANGING POTS, MARKERS, SOILS, FLATS & INSERTS, & COMPLETE SELECTION OF PLANT BOOKS ALONG WITH MUCH, MUCH MORE..! FULL LINE OF PLANT STANDS, LIGHT FIXTURES & ACCESSORIES. 50' AQUAMATIC HOSE - \$15.99 plus \$2.50 S&H CATALOG - 2 STAMPS

AFRICAN VIOLETS

Newest Varieties - Leading Hybridizers
Ship May 1 to November 1 - Weather permitting
Prior Notification of Shipping Date
Leaves - Labeled - My Choice - PPD - No List
12-\$4.95/25-\$7.95/50-\$14.95

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JOS VIOLETS

15 Standard starters \$22.95 Send stamp for list
12 Semimini & mini starters 19.95 402 Dundee
12 Trailer starters 19.95 Victoria, TX 77904
My choice, labeled, different and postpaid.
Texas residents, please add 7% sales tax.
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Visitors by appointment.



Violet Express



"Superior violets expressly for you!"

*Wishing you health, happiness,
and beautiful violets
during the Holiday Season
and in the coming year.*

SPECTACULAR NEW VARIETIES ARE BEING PROPAGATED NOW FOR YOUR SPRING GROWING PLEASURE

*It is with great pride and pleasure that I announce that The Violet Express
is honored to have been selected as the Exclusive Distributor of
Nolan Blansit's and Sandra Williams' 1991 releases.*

**BLANSIT: 3 new show-perfect stands with a wealth of bloom.

** WILLIAMS: 10 fantastic new Suncoast varieties, 1 glorious chimera.

FALL 1990 RELEASES:

* BOONE: 11 blue ribbon winners including 4 new variegated "Halo's."

* KENT'S: 4 heavy-blooming beauties, show plants all.

SPRING 1991 RELEASES:

* CHAMPION: 1 beautiful new standard, 8 delectable new minis and semiminis.

* RUBY COX: 7 new exquisite standard varieties, perfection personified.

* CROTEAU: 5 new spectacular standards from this great Canadian hybridizer.

* FREDETTE: 20 new "Originals," outstanding for every collection.

* PITTMAN: 10 new heavy-blooming semiminis, 8 delightful minis, and 3 super new trailers, all Honey's with Hortense's perfect touch

* ROB'S MINI-O-LETS: 10 delightful new minis and semiminis and an adorable chimera. Ralph Robinson's creations keep getting better and better!

* WASMUND: 7 lovely new standard "Rainbow's" and 4 new "Bantam" and "Peewee" charmers in vibrant colors to add to your special Rainbow.

Also outstanding varieties from * Bryant * Granger * Jeannette's Jesneriads * Lyon/Sorano * Munk's 'Apaches' * Ness * Smith's Wranglers * Tremblay * and other top American and Canadian hybridizers.

Send for my 1991 catalog with hundreds of varieties fully described.

The best of old and new. \$1.75 (\$3.00 foreign) - ready about mid-February.

*** My 1990 mail-order customers will receive a complimentary copy. ***

Shipping of starter plants & leaves will begin about May 1st.

***We take pride in our expert wrapping and packing. ***

GENOLA B. COX, 1441 Everett Road, Eagle River, WI 54521 - ph. (715) 479-3099

Visit my "growing family" in the beautiful Northwoods of Wisconsin. Open Tuesday through Saturday, 10-4. Closed Sundays and Mondays.

PLASTIC FLOWER POTS

Inch Size	Color	Type	Number of Pots				
			10	20	50	100	500
2-1/4	Wh or Gr	RS or SQ	1.00	1.75	4.00	6.75	27.00
2-1/4	Black	Square	1.00	1.75	4.00	6.75	27.00
2-1/2	Wh or Gr	RS or SQ	1.20	2.00	4.30	7.40	30.00
2-1/2	Black	Square	1.20	2.00	4.30	7.40	30.00

Quantities of White and Green 2-1/4" and 2-1/2" SQUARES may be limited. Please indicate on your order if black is acceptable.

3	Wh/Gr	RS/RT/SQ	1.50	2.70	6.00	11.00	50.00
3-1/2	Wh/Gr	RT or SQ	1.75	3.10	7.30	13.00	58.00
4	Wh/Gr	RS/RT/SQ	2.10	3.70	8.30	15.50	70.00
4-1/2	Wh/Gr	RS/RT/SQ	2.35	4.20	9.25	17.00	79.00
5	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	2.75	5.10	11.75	20.75	93.00
6	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	3.35	5.90	14.00	26.00	
6-1/2	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	3.90	6.90	15.75	29.00	
7	Wh/Gr	RS	6.30	11.95	28.00		
8	Wh/Gr	RS or RT	6.90	13.10	31.00		

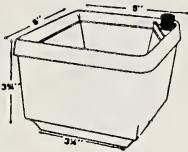
NOTE: The RT of the 3", 3-1/2", & 4" has a good round edge.

Due to cost of shipping large quantities of 6", 6-1/2", 7", & 8" please write for special quotes for ordering amounts not listed.

MOIST-RITE PLANTERS

The attractively designed, double wall planters provide self-watering. Colors are: white, light green, and black.

Single Planter	\$ 4.00
Six Planters	20.00
Twelve Planters	35.00
Twenty-four Planters	58.00



OYAMA PLANTERS

Available in white & green the pots are:
4 Inches across the top \$1.49
5-1/2 Inches across the top 2.99



PLASTIC PAN POTS

Very shallow — depth is about 1/2 the width

Inch Size	Color	10	20	50	100	250
5	Wh or Gr	3.00	5.75	13.50	24.00	55.00
6	Wh or Gr	3.90	7.50	17.00	32.00	75.00
6-1/2	Wh or Gr	4.15	8.00	18.50	35.00	86.00
8	Wh or Gr	6.25	11.50	27.00	52.00	126.00
10	Wh or Gr	9.75	18.25	43.50	83.00	203.00

SEEDS

AFRICAN VIOLETS - from the Nadeau Seed Company	
Packet: 100 seeds & directions	\$4.75
Kit: 100 seeds, directions, container, pellet medium	5.25
Your choice: #1 - Rainbow Wonders (standard);	
#2 - Little Gems (minis); #3 - Autumn Fancies (variegated);	
#4 - Trallintrigue (trailers).	

the
**VIOLET
HOUSE**

P. O. Box 1274
Gainesville, FL 32602
(904) 377-8465

1990

RESERVOIRS

Wicks
White wicks
Black wicks
Reservoirs
Screw on base

Vol.	Hgt.	20	50	100	500
8 oz	1-3/4"	7.00	16.00	26.50	115.00
16 oz	3"	7.00	16.00	26.50	115.00
32 oz	3"	11.00	24.00	45.00	165.00

We do not supply wicks

PLANT CARE ITEMS

*PLEASE NOTE:

Due to the bulk of soil, perlite, and vermiculite, we will ship ONLY eight (8) gallons of any one or combination of these (*) four items with each shipping charge

*VIOLET HOUSE SOILLESS MIX, can be used as is, moistening with your regular watering mix. Contains peat, perlite, vermiculite, lime, (pH about 6.7) & a trace of Peter's 12-36-14. 2 gal. \$3.00

*FINE SEEDLING MIX, similar to our soilless mix, the vermiculite is finer, contains no fertilizer, pH about 6.5 (close to Jiffy-7 pel.) 2 gal. 3.00

*PERLITE, allows aeration and drainage 1 gal. 1.50

*VERMICULITE, helps maintain soil moisture 1 gal. 1.50

CANADIAN PEAT, milled, medium for fine roots 2 gal. 2.50

DOLOMITE LIME, raises alkalinity, if soil tests too acid 1 lb. 1.30

CHARCOAL, sweetens moist soil 12 oz. 1.50

SPAGNUM MOSS, long fibered, holds moisture in wire hanging baskets and in the terrarium 1/4 cu. ft. 2.75

SNAP-ON SAUCERS to fit PANS

Pan Size	Color	10	20	50	100	Clear Saucers
5"	W/G	1.30	2.40	5.50	9.50	6" \$2.75
6"	W/G	1.65	3.10	7.50	12.50	7" 4.30
6.5"	W/G	2.15	4.00	9.50	18.00	8" 5.10
8"	W/G	2.45	5.25	13.00	22.00	9" 6.40
10"	W/G	4.75	9.25	22.50	42.00	10" 7.30
						11" 10.25
						12" 11.75

YOUR REQUEST FOR OUR FREE CATALOGUE WILL BE ANSWERED BY RETURN MAIL!

MINIMUM ORDER \$7.50 PLUS SHIPPING
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Phone (904) 377-8465
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SHIPPING CHARGES

48 States (United Parcel Service) \$3.25

If C.O.D., UPS charges additional 3.30

Hawaii and Alaska (U.S. Postal Service) 5.50

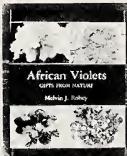
All other areas charged actual cost.

From all the Tinari's . . . Joyous Seasons Greetings

*The wind whistles in every tree and nook,
Sleet and snow cover field and brook.
A magic hearth that glows with friendships old,
To each of you may Happy Holidays unfold.*

**AFRICAN VIOLET ACCESSORIES SHIPPED PROMPTLY THE YEAR ROUND
BY UPS, MAKE MEMORABLE CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

AFRICAN VIOLETS: GIFTS FROM NATURE ... by Melvin J. Robey. Beautiful new book, contains 42 color photos, 150 black and white. Many illustrations and charts; a real textbook 8-1/2" x 11". All you ever wanted to know about African violets at your fingertips. Truly a masterpiece! \$45.00 ppd.



GROWING OUR WAY...OUR AFRICAN VIOLET HERITAGE by Anne Tinari...read about the heritage of your favorite plant, its growth and history of many cultivars originated in the last 30 years. Most often asked questions and answers to help you with your violet problems. An ideal gift for any violet enthusiast, autographed on request. \$6.95 postpaid

"HOW TO GROW AFRICAN VIOLETS" ... A new revised Sunset Book, author Jack Kramer. Up-to-date growing techniques described and illustrated. Valuable information on propagating, grooming and showing African violets. \$7.95 postpaid



"SUCKER PLUCKER," tempered steel blades - straight and curved. Sharp edges for easy plucking, natural finish, hardwood handle \$2.99 each postpaid



"LEAF DUSTER," fan shaped brush of pure natural bristle, great for hairy leaf varieties \$2.99 each postpaid
SPECIAL one of each \$5.75 postpaid

FLORA CART— Indoor Garden on Wheels - Ideal for growing African violets. Rugged lifetime construction of aluminum tubing. Beautiful molded fiberglass trays 19"x49"x1-1/2", light-weight, strong and easy to clean. Shipped "knocked down" with complete instructions for assembly. May be operated with automatic timer. (Accommodates 48" tubes.) Flora Carts shipped only in Continental USA.

MODEL BA-3 - 3-tray Flora Cart, includes aluminum framing, top bracket, three fiberglass trays and casters for easy moving. Overall size: 68" high x 53" long x 19" wide. Shipped prepaid via UPS \$289.00

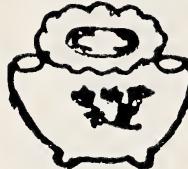
(Light fixtures not included, see below)

COMBOLITE FIXTURES - for use with all size Flora Carts, one fixture needed per tray, two tubes per fixture included of the Gro-Lux Wide Spectrum. Shipped prepaid via UPS \$75.00
TINARI'S AFRICAN VIOLET SOIL... properly blended potting soil, pasteurized to remove most harmful bacteria. Soil is the same mixture used in our greenhouse operation, pH of about 6.4. Soil is packaged ready to ship in:

8# plastic bag zone 0-1-2 \$ 9.95 postpaid
8# plastic bag zone 3-4-5 \$10.95 postpaid
8# plastic bag zone 6-7-8-9 \$11.95 postpaid
(First number of your zip code indicates zone you should use.)

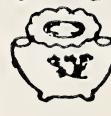
Dept. AV • Commercial Member: AVS of America, Inc.
Send 50¢ for color catalog.

HANDCRAFTED 2-PIECE SELF-WATERING CERAMIC POT



STYLE CSW-1

Height	4-1/2" overall
Width	7" overall
Pot Size	For 3" or 4" pots
Price	\$14.95 postpaid



STYLE CSW-2

Height	3-1/4" overall
Width	5-1/2" overall
Pot Size	For 2-1/4" or 3" pots
Price	\$10.95 postpaid



STYLE CSW-MINI

(for miniatures & semiminatures)	
Height	3-1/4" overall
Width	4-3/4" overall
Pot Size	Minis
Price	\$8.95 postpaid

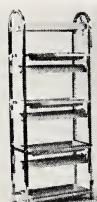


STYLE CSW-MM (Micromini)

NEW - especially for Microminis	
Height, 2-1/4"; width, 3-1/2" overall	
.....	\$6.95 postpaid

2-piece ceramic self-watering footed pots. Choose from 9 sparkling colors in lavender, Robin's egg blue, mint green, deep blue, pink, sesame, lemon yellow, gray, and white. Attractive violet cluster glazed decal decoration on both sides. (Please state 2nd color choice.) These pots can be watered from side holes to the reservoir or removed to refill reservoir. Helps to avoid overwatering and very convenient for people who must be away for periods of time.

GROW-LITE FLUORESCENT STAND - An ideal fluorescent light fixture to grow choice African violets. Gray top, black wrought iron legs, height is adjustable from 12" to 24". Light fixture comes complete with 2-20 watt Gro-Lux tubes. App. size 24" high, 24" long and 13-1/2" deep. May be used with an automatic timer. \$49.95 ppd.



JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS ... NEW AFRICAN VIOLET LITE STANDS ...

Fabricated from 1" square aluminum tubing which are easy to assemble. Unit comes complete with 4 plastic tan trays and 4 double light fixtures complete with chains and 8 20 watt Lifelite energy saver tubes. Overall size 67" high x 26" long x 12-1/2" wide.
Aluminum finish \$239.00 ppd.
Brown finish \$259.00 ppd.

OPTIMARA MINIWELL ... Clear plastic Miniwell with wick, an ideal way to grow the microminis with minimal care.
\$1.99 ea w/any order.
SPECIAL...6 Miniwells for \$11.50 w/any order.



Tinari
GREENHOUSE

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Huntingdon Valley, Pa. 19006





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